DC BATMAN

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BAT MAN

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EXCLUSIVE! ASTOUNDING TALES OF BATMAN'S TROPHIES!

KARATE

JUDO-JIU-JITSU-SAVATE

THE TOTAL SELF-DEFENSE SYSTEM

In the shortest time you can learn the fantastic secrets of self-defense and you'll never be afraid again! This unique Home Course will reveal hundreds of fighting secrets that you can put to immediate use. Easy and exciting to learn, you'll be able to master any difficult situation. In less than 15 minutes a day, the knowledge of the World's Top Fighting Experts can be Yours!!

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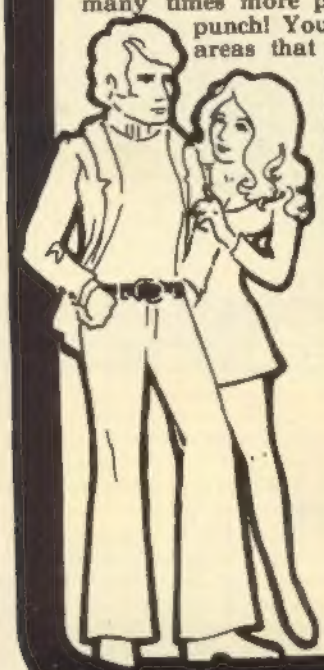

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- Learn the secrets of the Ancient Oriental Masters!
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- Destroy any attacker in seconds, even two or three attackers at once!
- Easy to read, completely illustrated instructions — learn at home!

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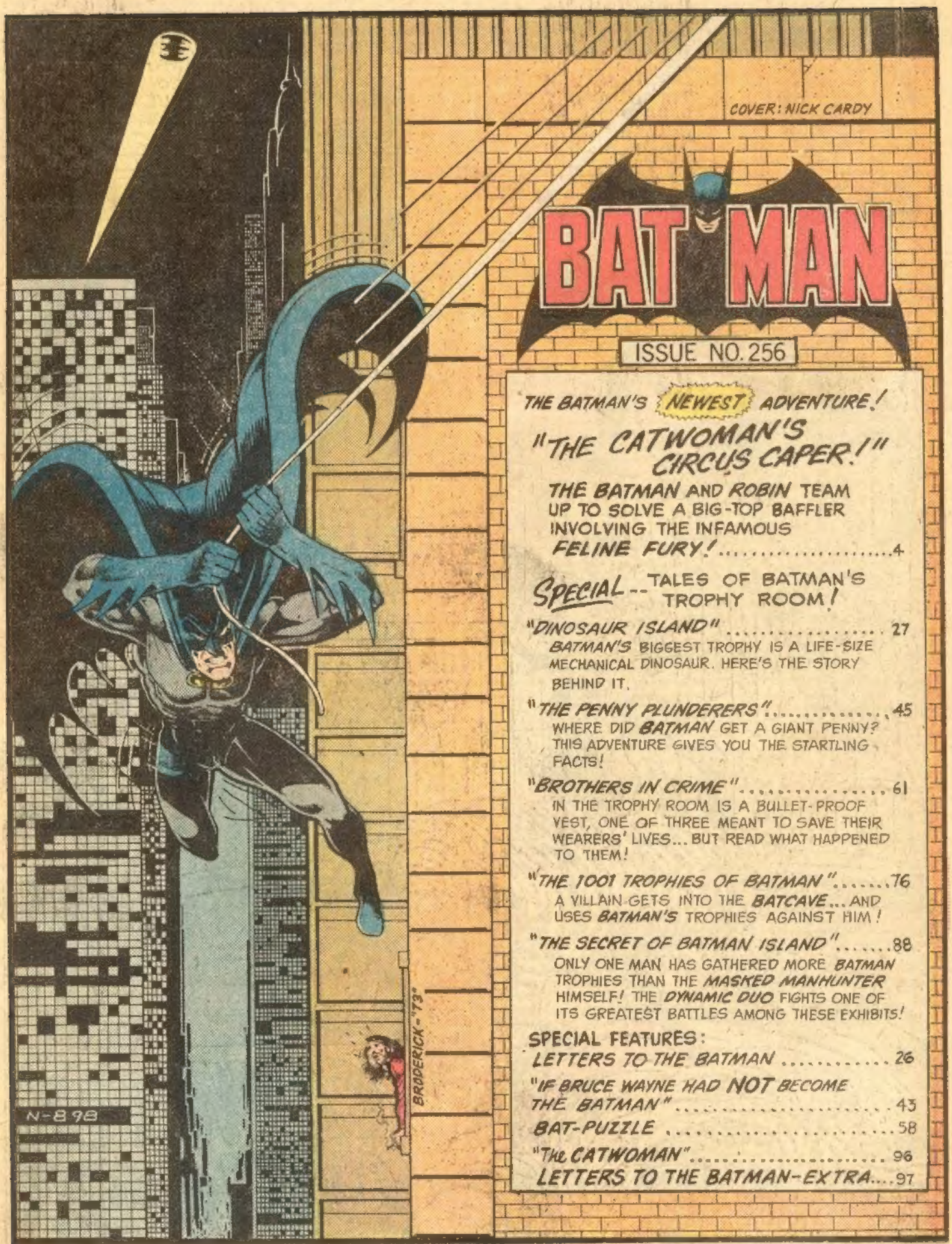
COVER: NICK CARDY
BATMAN
ISSUE NO. 256
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N-898

BATMAN, Vol. 35, No.256, May-June, 1974. Published bi-monthly by NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N. Y. 10019. Carmine Infantino, Publisher. Julius Schwartz, Editor. Sol Harrison, Vice-President—Production Manager. Second Class Postage paid at New York, N. Y. and additional mailing offices. Advertising Representative, Sanford Schwarz & Co., Inc., 16 West 46th Street, New York, N. Y. 10036. Copyright © 1974 by National Periodical Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred. Printed in U. S. A.

SUBSCRIPTION DEPT.: P.O. Box 1047, Flushing, N.Y. 11352. Rate $3 in U.S.A. ($4 elsewhere). Subscription term based on cover prices (20c or 60c) of consecutive issues mailed.

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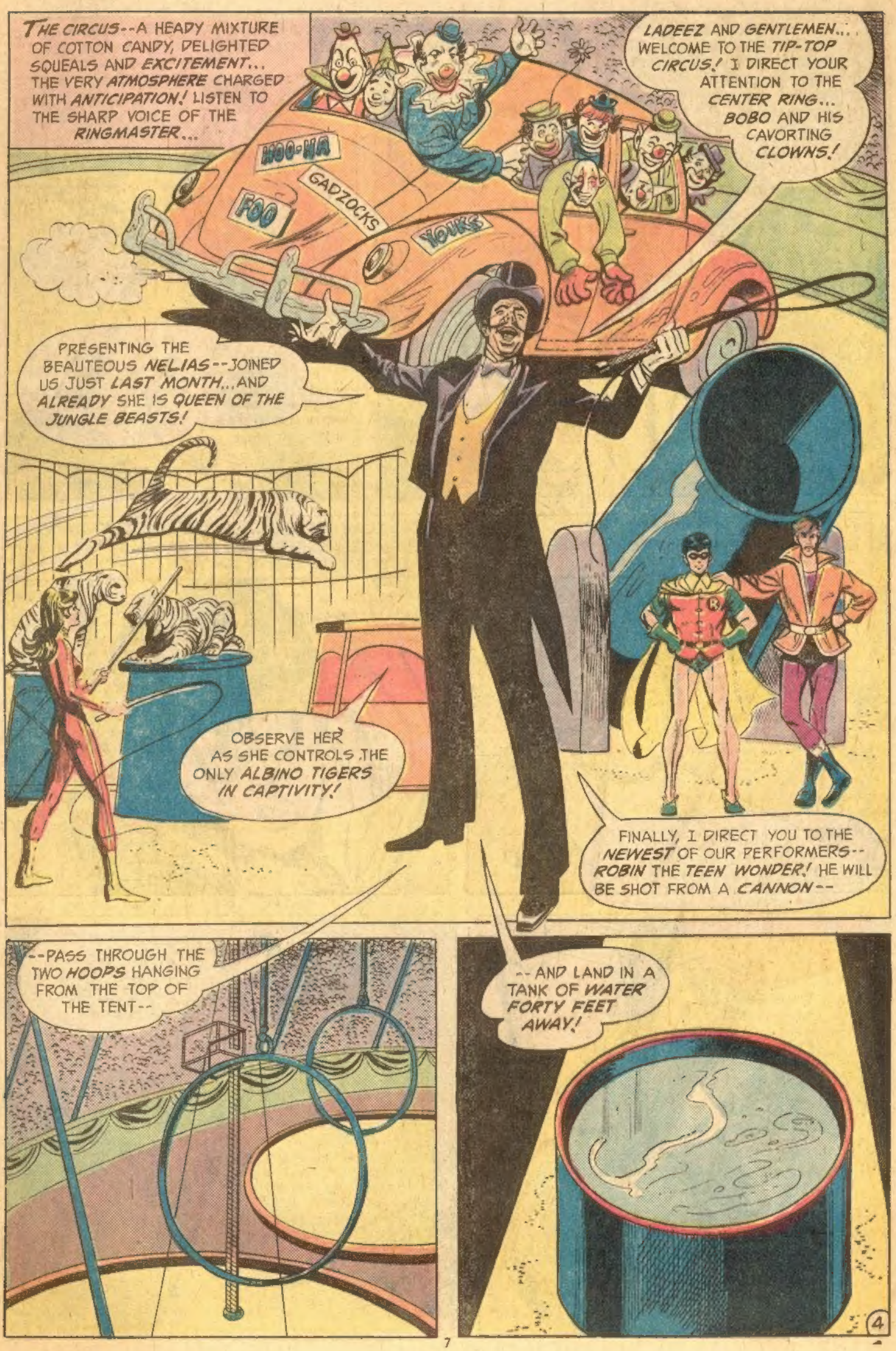
WELCOME, READER! I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU! I WANT YOUR ATTENTION...BECAUSE I HAVE FOR YOU A TALE SO GRIM, I SHUDDER TO TELL IT! IT BEGAN WITH OUR MOST RECENT ENCOUNTER WITH THE MAD FELINE FELON...THE CATWOMAN,..AND WITH A MURDER COMMITTED WHEN THE CIRCUS CAME TO TOWN! BUT WAS THE CATWOMAN GUILTY OF THE KILLING? IT'S WHAT ROBIN AND I HAD TO FIND OUT...IN THIS, OUR NEWEST CASE!
AN OLD ENEMY... AND A CHILLINGLY NEW KIND OF DANGER...THESE ARE WHAT FACE THE DREAD--
BAT MAN
THE SMELL OF SAWDUST MINGLES WITH THE FERAL ODOR OF WILD BEASTS... AND ALL IS STILL EXCEPT FOR THE SOFT SOUND OF AN ANIMAL SNARL!
THIS IS THE CIRCUS--A PLACE OF LAUGHTER, OF MERRIMENT... NOW BECOMES THE HAUNT OF A DEATH THAT LINGERS IN THE AIR LIKE A MALEVOLENT GHOST!
FOLLOW THE BATMAN AND HIS YOUNG PARTNER-IN-PERIL ROBIN AS THEY FOLLOW A TORTURED TRAIL OF TREACHERY TO--
"CATWOMAN'S CIRCUS CAPER!"
STORY: DENNY O'NEIL
ART: IRV NOVICK
& DICK GIORDANO
EDITED BY: JULIUS SCHWARTZ
S-1434
1

A MANSION ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF GOTHAM CITY... SEEMINGLY DESERTED THIS BRISK WINTER NIGHT...
WAYNE MANOR
--YET IN A CAVE BENEATH IT, THERE IS LIGHT... MOTION-- AND THE BATMAN!
WELCOME BACK, MASTER BRUCE! HOW WAS YOUR JOURNEY?
ROUGH, ALFRED! I DOGGED THOSE THUGS THROUGH HALF THE CITIES IN EUROPE!
BUT NOW THE CASE IS IN THE FILES... AND CLOSED!
I HAD YOU RE-OPEN WAYNE MANOR SO I COULD QUIETLY SPEND THE NEXT WEEK HERE... VEGETATING!
I'M AFRAID THAT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE, SIR! I'VE BEEN HOLDING THIS TELEGRAM FOR YOU--
--IT'S FROM MASTER DICK, SIR!
UNION TELEGRAM
AM SPENDING NEXT WEEK WITH TIP-TOP CIRCUS. WILL EXPLAIN LATER. HANG LOOSE.
DICK
WHATEVER IT IS, IT MUST BE URGENT FOR DICK TO TAKE A LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM HUDSON UNIVERSITY!
YOU'RE RIGHT, ALFRED! I WON'T BE RESTING AFTER ALL!-- GET THE CAR READY!
2

SOMETIME LATER, THE OWNER OF THE TIP-TOP CIRCUS RECEIVES A RENOWNED VISITOR...
SO YOU WANT TO JOIN OUR SHOW, EH? NO DOUBT YOU'D BE A STAR ATTRACTION, ALL RIGHT...
AND CONSIDERIN' WE LOST ONE OF OUR TOP PERFORMERS LATELY...
YES, I KNOW ABOUT THAT, SIR...
TIP-TOP CIRCUS
COURSE, I DON'T NEED TO BE A GENIUS TO FIGURE OUT WHY YOU'RE REALLY HERE, ROBIN--
-- THE PERFORMER WE LOST WAS MURDERED! AN' YOU GOT A THING 'BOUT MURDERERS--
--YOU LIKE TO CATCH 'EM!
MY MOTIVES AREN'T IMPORTANT! I'M OFFERING MY SERVICES-- FREE!
WELL... WHAT DO YOU SAY?
I'D BE A FOOL TO REFUSE--WHICH I AIN'T!
AN' THERE'S THE FELLA WHO'LL GET YOU STARTED!
HEY, BERNIE... BERNIE BYRD! C'MERE!
MEET ROBIN... AIN'T GOT A LAST NAME! ANYWAYS, HE'LL TAKE YOUR BROTHER'S PLACE IN THE ACT!
A PLEASURE, ROBIN!
FOR ME, TOO! I'VE HEARD OF THE FLYING BYRDS!
SEE YA!
ROBIN, IF HALF THE STORIES OF YOUR ACROBATIC SKILL ARE TRUE, YOU'LL HAVE NO TROUBLE DOING THE STUNT MY BROTHER BILLY USED TO DO--BEFORE SOME CREEP KILLED HIM!
I'LL DISCUSS BILLY WITH YOU LATER!
SURE! NOW, LET'S INTRODUCE YOU TO THE BIG TOP!
3


THE CIRCUS--A HEADY MIXTURE OF COTTON CANDY, DELIGHTED SQUEALS AND EXCITEMENT... THE VERY ATMOSPHERE CHARGED WITH ANTICIPATION! LISTEN TO THE SHARP VOICE OF THE RINGMASTER...
LADEEZ AND GENTLEMEN... WELCOME TO THE TIP-TOP CIRCUS! I DIRECT YOUR ATTENTION TO THE CENTER RING... BOBO AND HIS CAVORTING CLOWNS!
HOO-HA
GADZOCKS
FOO
YOWKS
PRESENTING THE BEAUTEOUS NELIAS--JOINED US JUST LAST MONTH...AND ALREADY SHE IS QUEEN OF THE JUNGLE BEASTS!
OBSERVE HER AS SHE CONTROLS THE ONLY ALBINO TIGERS IN CAPTIVITY!
FINALLY, I DIRECT YOU TO THE NEWEST OF OUR PERFORMERS--ROBIN THE TEEN WONDER! HE WILL BE SHOT FROM A CANNON--
--PASS THROUGH THE TWO HOOPS HANGING FROM THE TOP OF THE TENT--
--AND LAND IN A TANK OF WATER FORTY FEET AWAY!
4

DON'T WORRY, ROBIN! REMEMBER--THERE'S NO GUNPOWDER IN THIS MONSTER! IT WORKS ON COMPRESSED AIR!
LET 'ER RIP, BERNIE!
THEN, BERNIE BYRD SNAPS A LANYARD--
--A WHOOSH...A ROAR...A PUFF OF ARTIFICIAL SMOKE... AND ROBIN HURLS UPWARD--
BLAM!
--A HUMAN CANNONSHELL PERFECTLY AIMED! THE CROWD DOES NOT BREATHE AS HE REACHES THE APEX OF HIS FLIGHT...
--NOR CAN THE AUDIENCE SEE THE DESPERATION IN HIS FACE AS HE BEGINS HIS DOWNWARD PLUNGE TOWARD HIS TARGET...
THE WATER-TANK--
TH-THERE'S A SPEAR IN THE CENTER!!
...AND THERE'S NO WAY I CAN AVOID BEING... IMPALED!
5

HOWEVER... IN THE LAST SPLIT-SECONDS BEFORE ROBIN MUST SURELY MEET A HORRIBLE END, A BLUR OF GRAY BURSTS FROM THE SHADOWS!...

...AND ROBIN HITS ONLY WATER...

SUDDENLY, THE TENT SHAKES WITH THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE...

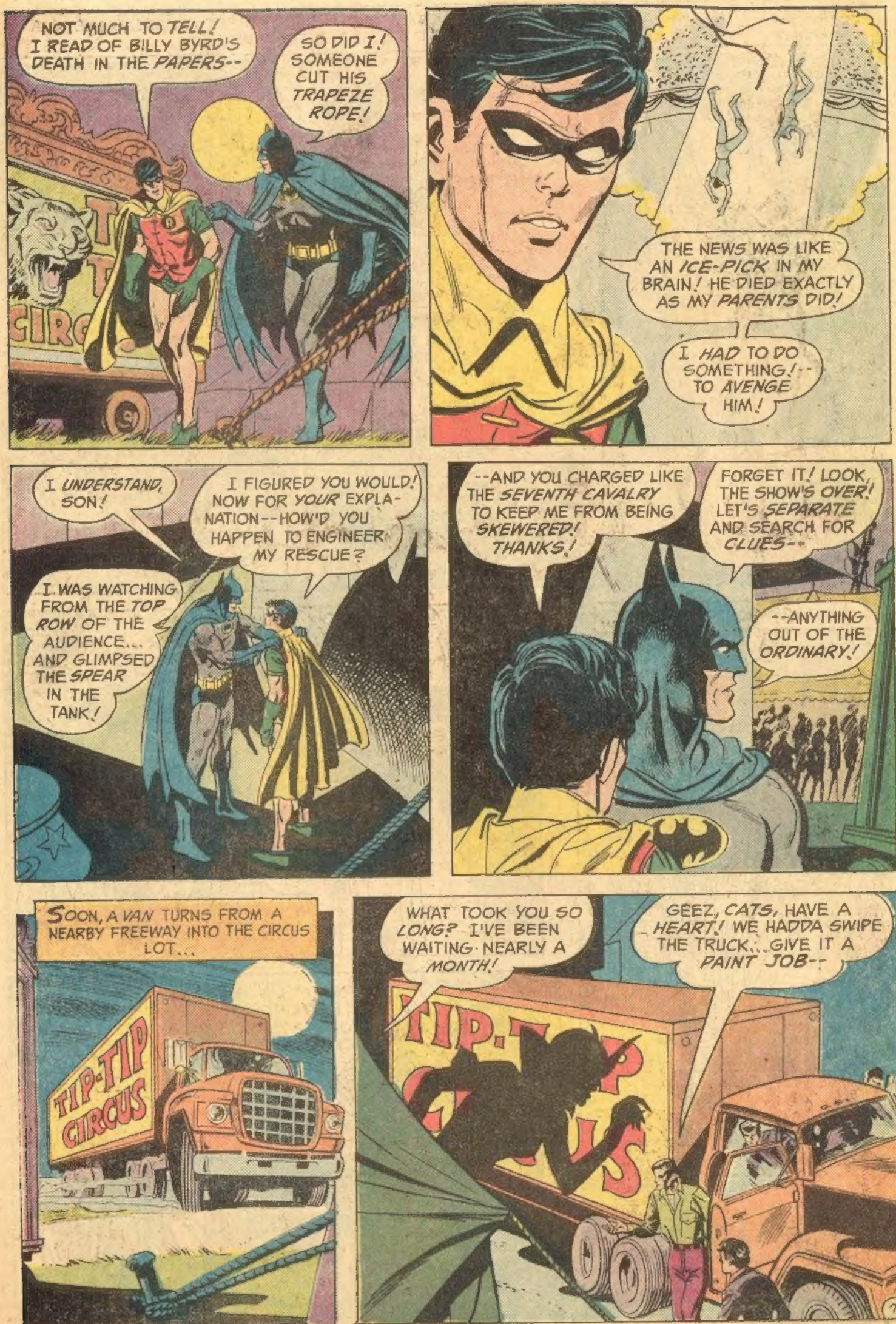
FANCY MEETING YOU HERE, BATMAN!

SAVE THE HUMOR AND BOW! YOU'VE BECOME AN INSTANT STAR!

DIRECTING YOUR ATTENTION NEXT TO BERNIE BYRD ON THE HIGH WIRE--

LET'S SKIP THE REST OF THE PERFORMANCE, OKAY?

CHECK! YOU'VE SOME EXPLAINING TO DO, YOUNGSTER!


NOT MUCH TO TELL! I READ OF BILLY BYRD'S DEATH IN THE PAPERS--
SO DID I! SOMEONE CUT HIS TRAPEZE ROPE!
THE NEWS WAS LIKE AN ICE-PICK IN MY BRAIN! HE DIED EXACTLY AS MY PARENTS DID!
I HAD TO DO SOMETHING!-- TO AVENGE HIM!
I UNDERSTAND, SON!
I FIGURED YOU WOULD! NOW FOR YOUR EXPLANATION--HOW'D YOU HAPPEN TO ENGINEER MY RESCUE?
I WAS WATCHING FROM THE TOP ROW OF THE AUDIENCE... AND GLIMPSED THE SPEAR IN THE TANK!
--AND YOU CHARGED LIKE THE SEVENTH CAVALRY TO KEEP ME FROM BEING SKEWERED! THANKS!
FORGET IT! LOOK, THE SHOW'S OVER! LET'S SEPARATE AND SEARCH FOR CLUES--
--ANYTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY!
SOON, A VAN TURNS FROM A NEARBY FREEWAY INTO THE CIRCUS LOT...
TIP-TIP CIRCUS
WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG? I'VE BEEN WAITING NEARLY A MONTH!
GEEZ, CATS, HAVE A HEART! WE HADDA SWIPE THE TRUCK... GIVE IT A PAINT JOB--
7

QUIET! THE CATWOMAN IS NOT INTERESTED IN EXCUSES!
TONIGHT, WE HAVE A JOB! DRIVE TO THE ANIMAL CAGES! I'LL JOIN YOU SHORTLY!
DON'T COUNT ON IT, LADY!
--THE BATMAN!
LIVE AND IN PERSON, AS THEY SAY HERE-ABOUTS!
--AND GOING RIGHT INTO MY ACT!
STOP HIM!
WITH PLEASURE!
WITH PLEASURE, MAYBE... BUT WITHOUT ANY SKILL!
UNGHH!
HIT 'IM HIGH--
--AN' LOW!
SOUNDS LIKE YOU GUYS GOT YOUR FIGHTING TECHNIQUE FROM A BOWERY BOYS MOVIE!
PROBLEM WITH TRYING TO LEARN FROM TV MOVIES--

--IS THAT THE STUFF SELDOM WORKS--
--WHEN YOU TRY THE RERUN IN REAL LIFE!
K-FWOMP!
REAL CUTE, BATMAN... AN' YEAH!--YER RIGHT! MY BUDDIES DID ACT LIKE THIRD-RATE COMEDIANS--
BUT ME... I WAS BOXIN' CHAMP O' STATE PRISON!
YOU BOASTING--
--OR COMPLAIN-ING?
EITHER YOUR CELL-MATES WERE BUMS...OR YOU'VE GOTTEN RUSTY!
I'LL DO YOUR BOXING CAREER A FAVOR--
--AND SEND YOU BACK TO PRISON FOR MORE PRACTICE!
THWOCK
THE QUALITY OF CATWOMAN'S HELPERS IS DECLINING! THAT CREW HARDLY GAVE ME ENOUGH EXERCISE TO WORK UP A SWEAT!
BUT THEY DID BUY HER A DELAY... AND SHE TOOK ADVANTAGE OF IT TO ESCAPE!
9

I SAW HER RUN TO THIS ANIMAL AREA... AND THOSE HORSES ARE SPOOKED!
--WHICH MEANS SHE'S NEAR! BUT WHERE?!
MEANWHILE, ROBIN CREEPS ALONG THE QUIET BACKSTAGE PATHS--
NOT A CREATURE STIRRING...
...AND IT ISN'T EVEN CLOSE TO CHRISTMAS!
CLINK!
EH--? THAT PIPE CAME FROM THOSE SHADOWS!
PROBABLY NOTHING--
CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING
10

Great New Scene Kits With ZAP/ACTION!

Walt Disney's HAUNTED MANSION

Welcome to the Walt Disney Haunted Mansion... the most famous of haunted mansions, featured at Disneyland and Walt Disney World.
Now you can create your own haunted mansion scenes in 1/12 scale! Build exciting and [illegible] and release ZAP ACTION [illegible] models per [illegible] and [illegible] never before [illegible] model kits!

Touch lever: ZAP/ACTION!
Organist begins to play.

[illegible] ZAP ACTION!
[illegible]

...d the mummy pops up!

Play It Again, Sam

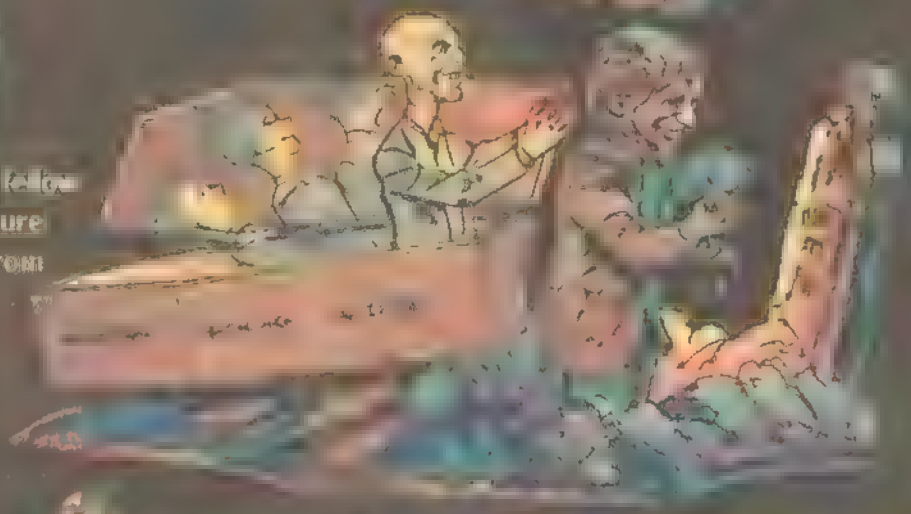
[illegible] model scene with double ZAP ACTION! [illegible] famous Disney organist ready to [illegible] with [illegible] refrain. ZAP ACTION! He [illegible] the keys. [illegible] Double ZAP/ACTION! Up pops the long-lost mummy.

Gnome from the Grave

...ere the helpful henchman tries to ...ee his friend the gnome, who has ...awled out of the crypt shackled to a ...l and chain. But watch out! There's ...double ZAP/ACTION, here! One touch ...his shovel down upon the chain... ...only to spring loose the casket's ...scary contents!

Grave Robber's Reward

...chinks he's discovered buried treasure ...just six feet down. But look out from ...behind! Up lifts the lid and ... ZAP/ACTION! Out leaps the ...gruesome grabber, reaching ...out with cold clammy hands!



The Vampire's Midnight Madness

This vampire's name is Morris and he's afraid of the dark! The skull on the ground is just too much for him. ZAP/ACTION! He swings his arms up in total fear and knocks the gargoyle ...one level ...famous smiling face!

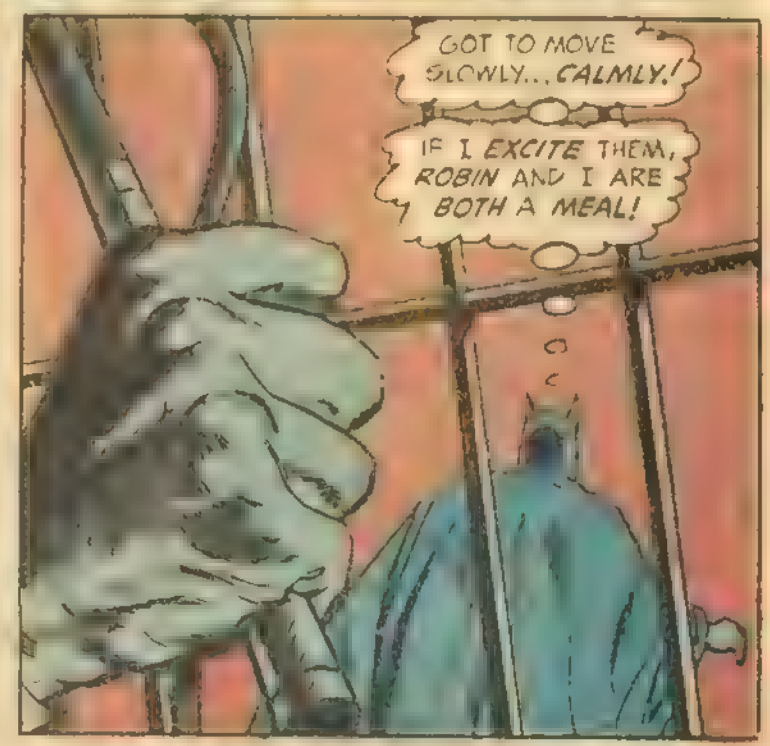
mpc

AN MPC PRODUCT OF FUNDIMENSIONS, DIVISION OF ...
...FUN GROUP ... MIDWAY ...MEN ... MICHIGAN ...

THUD!
FELL FOR THE OLDEST TRICK--
BLOWP!
-IN THE BOOK!
=UNNGH!=
THEN--
SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING'S BOTHERED THE TIGERS!
RROWR!
SOMETHING... OR SOMEONE--
--LIKE A CATWOMAN, FOR INSTANCE!

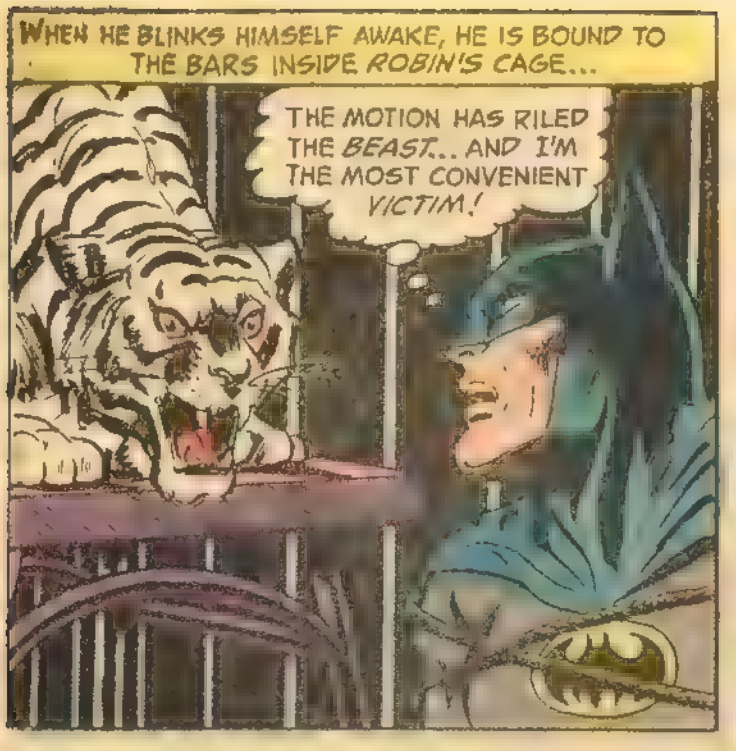
ROBIN...UNCONSCIOUS! IN A CAGE WITH THE BIG CATS!
I DON'T HAVE TO BE A SHERLOCK HOLMES TO FIGURE OUT WHO PUT HIM THERE!

THE CATWOMAN'S TURNING VICIOUS! SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN A COMPULSIVE CRIMINAL!
--BUT I'VE NEVER KNOWN HER TO DO ANYTHING SO NASTY BEFORE!


GOT TO MOVE SLOWLY...CALMLY!
IF I EXCITE THEM, ROBIN AND I ARE BOTH A MEAL!

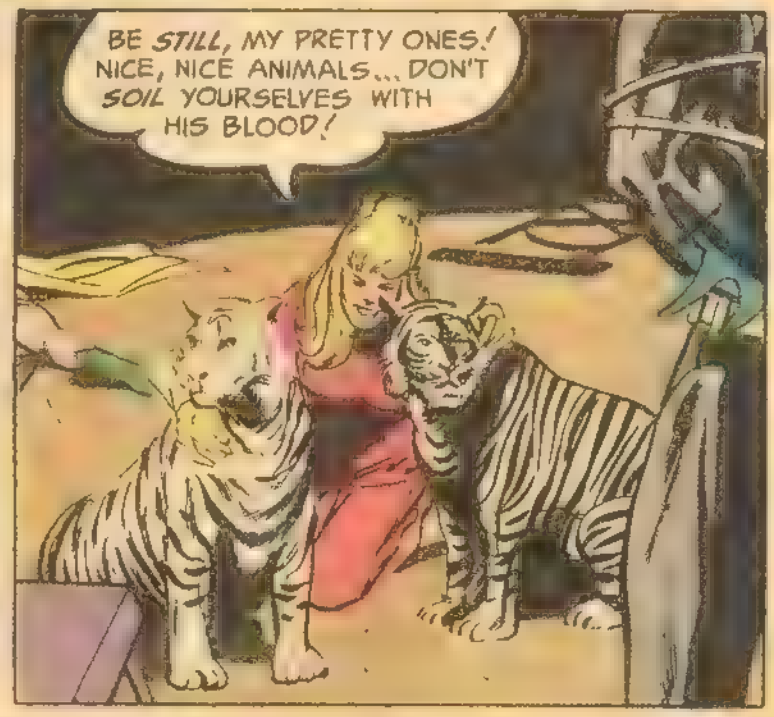
GAHH! A WHIP... 'ROUND MY THROAT!

UNABLE TO REGAIN HIS BALANCE, THE BATMAN IS YANKED AGAINST THE BARS...CLUBBED BY A WHIP-HANDLE--
FUNK!
12

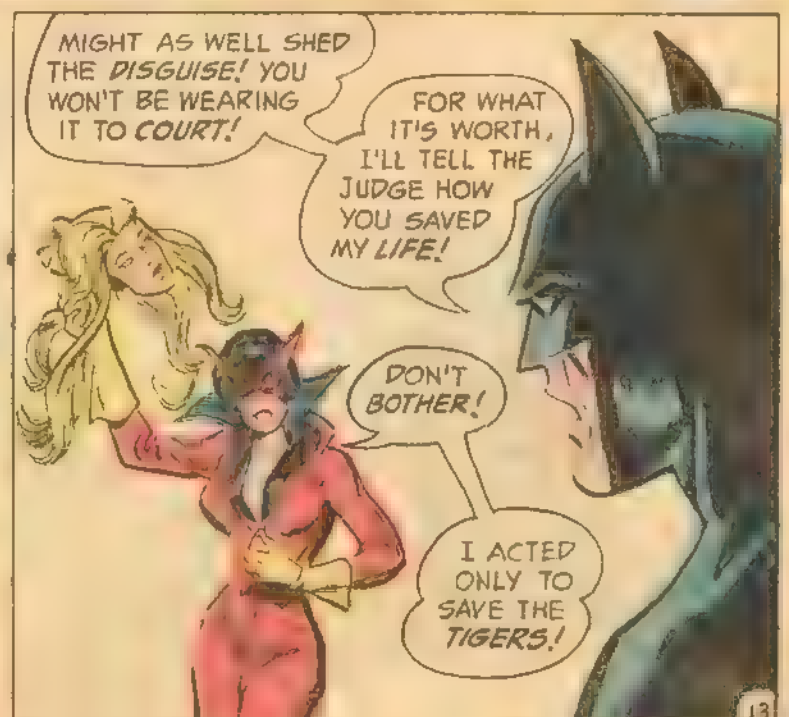

WHEN HE BLINKS HIMSELF AWAKE, HE IS BOUND TO THE BARS INSIDE ROBIN'S CAGE...
THE MOTION HAS RILED THE BEAST... AND I'M THE MOST CONVENIENT VICTIM!

GIVEN A MINUTE, I'D BE ABLE TO FREE MYSELF...
...BUT A MINUTE I DON'T HAVE!
NO, MY LOVELY--

-- LET THE NASTY MAN ALONE!


BE STILL, MY PRETTY ONES! NICE, NICE ANIMALS... DON'T SOIL YOURSELVES WITH HIS BLOOD!

I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL TO YOU, NELIAS...OR TO BE PRECISE -- CATWOMAN!
YOU'VE PENETRATED MY DISGUISE?
SURE... REARRANGE THE LETTERS IN NELIAS AND THEY SPELL SELINA--
--SELINA KYLE--YOUR REAL NAME!


MIGHT AS WELL SHED THE DISGUISE! YOU WON'T BE WEARING IT TO COURT!
FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, I'LL TELL THE JUDGE HOW YOU SAVED MY LIFE!
DON'T BOTHER!
I ACTED ONLY TO SAVE THE TIGERS!
13

HAD THEY SLAIN YOU, THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN SHOT!
YOU'RE REALLY FOND OF THEM, EH?
THEY'RE THE FINEST... NOBLEST CREATURES ON EARTH! I TOOK THE JOB AS TRAINER TO FREE THEM FROM THE HUMILIATION OF PERFORMING!
THOUGH YOU'VE INTERFERED WITH MY PLANS--
--AND I CAN'T LIBERATE BOTH OF THE LOVELIES, AT LEAST THIS ONE WILL COME WITH ME!
AWAY, MY PRECIOUS--
--TO FREEDOM!
I'M GLAD I'M SEEING IT... BECAUSE I DO BELIEVE MY EYES! SHE'S RIDING THE BIG CAT, LIKE A TAME PONY!
BETTER CARRY ROBIN TO SAFETY-- FIRST--
--THEN GIVE CHASE! I ALMOST RESPECT HER MOTIVES... BUT SHE IS A DANGEROUS CRIMINAL!
HAVEN'T A CHANCE OF CATCHING HER ON FOOT--
14

--BUT THE TRAINED HORSES CAN GO A LOT FASTER THAN A BATMAN!
I'M SURE THE CIRCUS WON'T MIND ME BORROWING THIS BIG FELLOW!
HEE-YAH! --MOVE!
I'VE CUT OFF HER ESCAPE-ROUTE! SHE HAS TO HEAD BACK INTO THE BIG TOP!
I FEEL LIKE JOHN WAYNE HERDING A STAMPEDE!
GIVE UP! LET ME BE A GENTLEMAN!
TO ME...YOU'RE NOT! YOU'RE A FOE... MY GREATEST!
OKAY... BE STUBBORN! YOU ALWAYS ARE!
MY NATURE, BATMAN-- THE NATURE OF A CAT!
PROUD... INDEPENDENT!
15

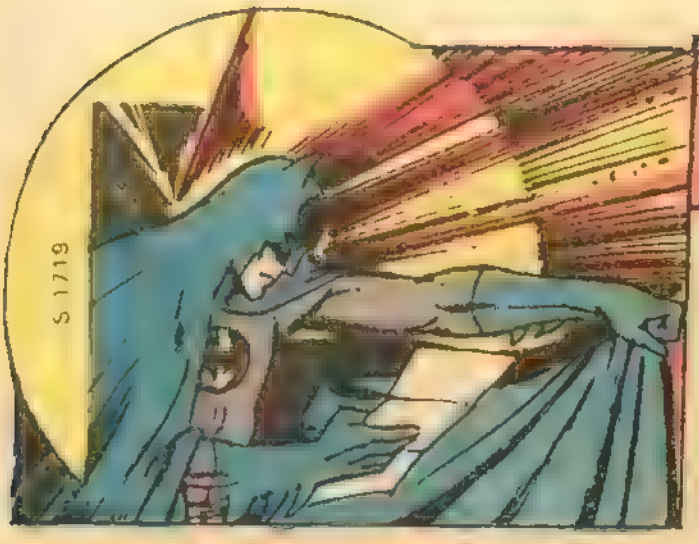
YOUR FAVORITE WEAPON... THE CAT O'-NINE-TAILS! YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED AT ALL!
I NEVER WILL!
I'M NOT ABOUT TO BE LASHED A SECOND TIME TONIGHT!
PULL IN YOUR CLAWS... DON'T FORCE ME TO HIT YOU!
CAN'T YOU UNDERSTAND? YOU'RE BEATEN!
DEFEATED... YES! BUT NOT HUMBLED! NO MAN CAN DO THAT TO ME!
16

HAVE TO TIE YOU... AS YOU WELL KNOW!
GO ON! I ASK NO FAVORS!
I CAUGHT YOUR COWBOY STUNT, BATMAN! PRETTY NIFTY!
I GUESS WE CAN MAKE THE CASE CLOSED! OBVIOUSLY, CATWOMAN TRIED TO MURDER ME...
OBVIOUSLY? DOESN'T FIGURE, KID!
WHY STICK YOU IN THE CAGE--THEN STAGE A RESCUE EFFORT?
NO, CATWOMAN IS INNOCENT!
SHE LACKED MOTIVE--HER ONLY CONCERN WAS TO STEAL THE TIGERS!
SHE HAD NO REASON TO MURDER BILLY BYRD LAST WEEK--BESIDES, SHE LACKED OPPORTUNITY TO PULL THE SPEAR-STUNT THAT NEARLY FINISHED YOU!
SO WE'RE BACK WHERE WE STARTED, RIGHT?
WRONG!--BECAUSE ONE MAN DID HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO RIG THE DEATH TRAP... JUST ONE!
YOU'VE GUESSED WHO I AM, BATMAN?
CERTAINLY--AND I'M COMING FOR YOU!

AFTER YOU, MY DEAR BATMAN!
SORRY, ROBIN! YOU'RE GROGGY FROM THE BLOW ON THE HEAD!
THIS WILL HAVE TO BE MY SHOW!
AT LEAST I CAN GIVE HIM SOME LIGHT!
AS YOU SAID, I'VE DEDUCED WHO YOU ARE!
HOWEVER, I STILL HAVEN'T DOPED OUT THE WHY!
SIMPLE! WHEN I SAW ROBIN, I WAS AFRAID HE'D DO AS YOU'VE DONE-- REVEAL ME!
HE HAD TO HAVE AN... ACCIDENT!
THAT DOESN'T EXPLAIN THE ORIGINAL MURDER!
YOU'VE NOTHING TO LOSE BY TELLING ME--
--WHY DID YOU KILL YOUR BROTHER, BERNIE BYRD?
18

IT WAS HER FAULT...NELIAS'S--! THE CATWOMAN'S!
I LOVE HER... AND SHE IGNORED ME!
SHE HAD EYES ONLY FOR HIM--
YOU'RE MISTAKEN... TRAGICALLY MISTAKEN!
THE CATWOMAN DEVOTES HERSELF TO ONLY A SINGLE PERSON...HERSELF!
PERHAPS... SHE THOUGHT TO USE BILLY--
-TO USE... NOT TO LOVE!
YOU'VE THROWN AWAY TWO LIVES--
YOURS AND BILLY'S--
--FOR AN ILLUSION!
THEN... I'LL JOIN MY BROTHER!
NO YOU WON'T!
YOU'VE COMMITTED THE OLDEST CRIME--
--THE CRIME OF CAIN...
...AND YOU MUST ANSWER FOR IT!
19

YOUR PAIN-- YOUR REMORSE-- DOESN'T EXCUSE YOUR DEED!
I WON'T LET YOU DO THE EASY THING--!
ROBIN... GET A LADDER-- AND THE LAW!
LATER, AT THE BATCAVE...
YOU'RE LOOKING PRETTY GLUM, CONSIDERING OUR HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL NIGHT!
I'VE BEEN THINKING, ROBIN... HOW CATWOMAN ALWAYS CAUSES EVIL!
..EVEN WITHOUT INTENDING TO! THAT'S HER CURSE!
AS FOR ME... WHENEVER I MEET A WOMAN I CAN CARE FOR, SHE'S AN ENEMY!
AND THAT'S MY CURSE!
END
20



LETTERS to the BATMAN

Dear Editor:

Batman #254, your first issue in the new 100 page format, proved to be a resounding success. The new material combined with the vintage yarns made for a totally enjoyable comic. Let's hope that this project will increase sales figures enough to warrant a more frequent publication schedule.

"King of the Gotham Jungle" was one of Frank Robbins' finest *Man-Bat* tales to date. Future team-ups between *The Batman* and *Man-Bat* would certainly please this reader. You'll have to be careful not to make the latter too omnipotent, however, for he'd tend to overshadow *Batman*. As it stands, *Batman* has the prowess, but *Man-Bat* unquestionably has the advantage in the power category. Should *Man-Bat* become a little more adept at crime-fighting, he would naturally have the edge. We don't want too much competition for the *Masked Manhunter*. You've been playing it smart by using *Man-Bat* only occasionally, he could become stale with overuse.

"The Phenomenal Memory of Luke Graham" and the aforementioned story alone would have been worth the 50c, but thanks for the extra 80 pages. Elliot Maggin has proved his versatility once again with this issue's *Robin* story. He writes everything from *Superman* to *Robin* to *Strange Sports Stories*, and writes them well.

—SCOTT PATON, Ellicott City, Md.

(They didn't tell us that when we started publishing 100 page mags, we'd start getting 100 page letters from our readers! That's an exaggeration, of course, but many readers—of whom Scott Paton is happily very typical—took several pages of raving to express their enthusiasm for our new size. So, without further ado . . . —MP)

Dear Editor:

I make it a point to begin each critique with a clever, catchy phrase or two of a startling observation.

But, for a magazine that runs the gamut of *Batman* #254, I am at a loss. Forgive my boyish enthusiasm, but it was great! I bought . . . and *loved* . . . *Batman From the '30's to the '70's*, and I hope that the *Batman* magazine will be adopting the format, because one volume is NOT enough to show how genuinely well the *Batman* legend has been carried out since the '30's.

"King of the Gotham Jungle" was only an average outing; a good mystery, great art, and smoothly displayed, but it was far below the other *Man-Bat* entries. "The Phenomenal Memory of Luke Graham", however, was an excellent story. Elliot Maggin has convinced me he *is* DC's best writer. The first thing I look for when I pick up ANY Schwartz-edited mag is the byline of "Elliot S! Maggin". If it's there, you know you're in for a real treat!

—BOB RODI, Oak Brook, Ill.

(Each issue of Batman *is being assembled around a different theme—Batman's Trophy Room in this one, for example. Which presents us with as good an opportunity as any to invite any of you who have ideas for themes for these* SuperSpecs, *to send them in. We'll be more than happy to consider them!—MP)*

Dear Editor:

If *Batman* #254 had been published in the 32-page size, it would have been a moderately interesting issue. However, the fact that this number is at once thicker and more expensive than the usual run of comix makes it something special.

The cover story was a nice professional job by Frank Robbins despite the misrepresentative title and title page. My thanks to the writer or editor who decided to take *Man-Bat* in a new direction—someplace short of "Man-Bat Goes to College!"

"The Phenomenal Memory of Luke Graham" was the usual uneven, uneventful, *Robin* un-story by Elliot Maggin, with a couple of ha-has to let the reader know that the writer is capable of better things.

The extras were largely, er, extraneous. Except for "The Witch and The Manuscript of Doom" and "The Man Who Stole from Batman", the *Batman* reprints were undistinguished. "Special Features" like the *Batman Oddities* and (drum roll, please) the *Bat-Maze* and the (cinnamon roll, thanks) extra page of letters . . . well, what about the Direct Currents page, huh?!

More original material is needed, of course. And, so I can end this on a threatening note, lemme say that if you try to foist a story like "The Son of the Joker" on your trusting, childlike audience again, I'll . . .

—ALLAN FERGUSON, LaHabra, Ca.

(Well, whatever it is you decide to do, Allan, don't stop writing these fun letters—blistering brickbats notwithstanding. We enjoy reading your missives—especially the parts the Comics Code won't let us print! As for more new material, we again repeat the maxim, "The more copies we sell, the more new pages you'll get". So, come on, Bat-*fans . . . buy! Now, to equalize the above critic's thumbs-down on our reprints comes a Young man . . . and, as for whether or not he's "trusting" or "childlike" we'll leave Messrs. Ferguson and Young to battle over! May the best man win [adhesive tape roll, please . . .]!—MP)*

Dear Editor:

Batman #254 was the kind of issue that any *Batman* fan would go *Bat*-crazy over. The new one hundred-page format will improve the magazine in several ways.

The reprints were fantastic. "The Witch of Doom", "The Bullet-Hole Club", "The Man Who Stole From Batman", and "The Second Batman and Robin Team" were excellent examples of *Batman* in the '40's, '50's, and '60's.

"King of the Gotham Jungle" has a good premise, but the plot was not developed enough.

But to sum the issue up, like I said above, it was excellent!

—GARY YOUNG, Enon, O.

This issues' BIBLIOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT: "The 1,001 Trophies of Batman" originally appeared in *Detective* #158 (April, 1950); "Dinosaur Island" is from *Batman* #35 (June-July, 1946); "The Penny Plunderers" first appeared in *World's Finest* #30 (Sept.-Oct., 1947); "Brothers in Crime" originated in *Batman* #12 (Aug.-Sept., 1942); and "The Secret of Batman Island" came from *Batman* #119 (Oct., 1958).

Address your letters to: LETTERS TO THE BATMAN, National Periodical Publications, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019

I OBTAINED FROM MY BATTLE WITH THE CATWOMAN A SPLENDID TROPHY- HER CAT-O'-NINE-TAILS! AND, WHILE WE'RE IN MY TROPHY ROOM, LET ME SHOW YOU A FEW OTHER MEMENTOS! ONE OF MY MOST IMPRESSIVE ONES IS A GIANT MODEL DINOSAUR! AND IF YOU THINK BAGGING THAT BABY WAS EASY, LET ME FILL YOU IN!
BATMAN
WITH
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
AN ETERNITY OF TIME AGO, LONG, LONG BEFORE THERE WERE PLANES, SKY-SCRAPERS AND RADIOS, A HORDE OF GIANT MAMMALS AND REPTILES RULED THE EARTH. THESE PREHISTORIC CREATURES WERE THE WORLD'S FIRST OUTLAWS, DEFYING PUNY CAVE-MAN BY DAY AND NIGHT.
WHEN FATE CONTRIVES TO PIT THE BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER AGAINST THIS MAMMOTH LEGION FROM THE MIST OF TIME-WITH NOTHING TO AID THE DYNAMIC DUO BUT THEIR RAZOR WITS AND BARE HANDS-ONLY THE FITTEST CAN SURVIVE. THIS, THEN, IS THE PERIL-OUS ISSUE INVOLVED IN-
"DINOSAUR ISLAND!"
STORY: BILL FINGER
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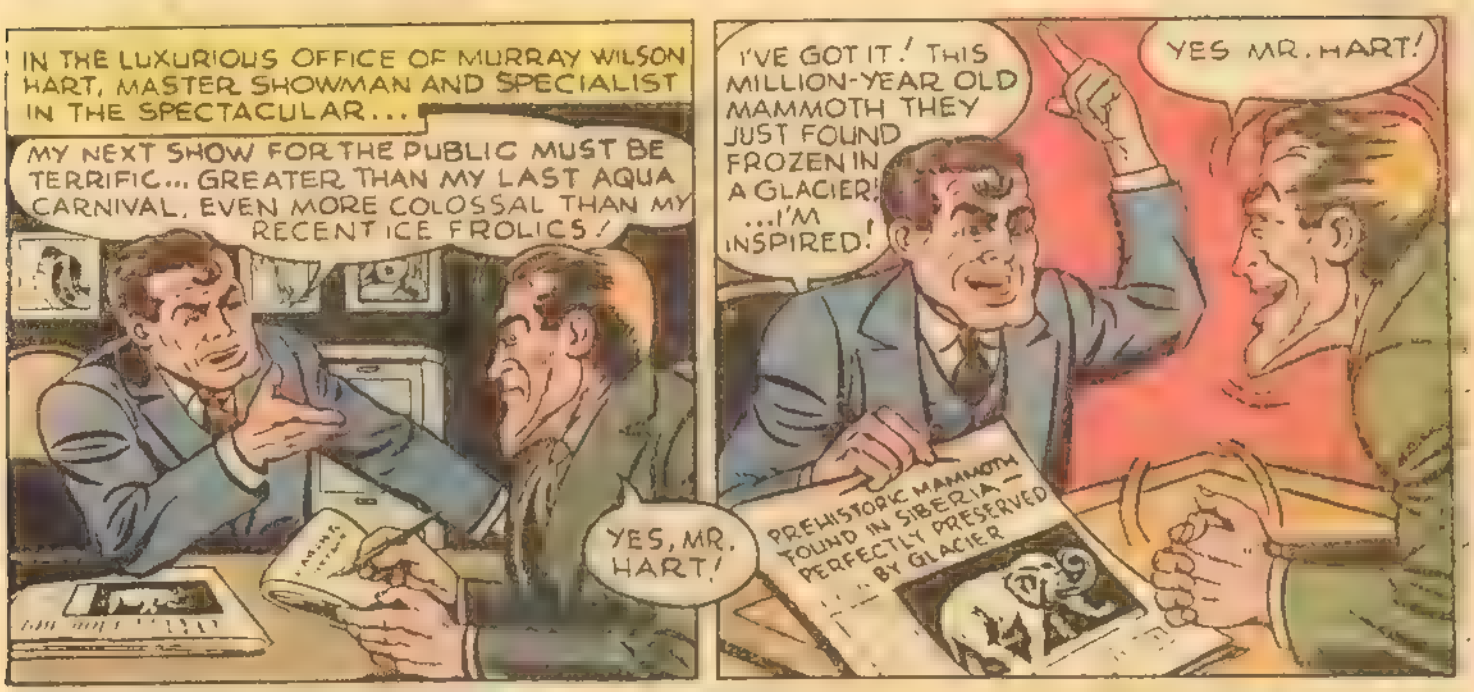
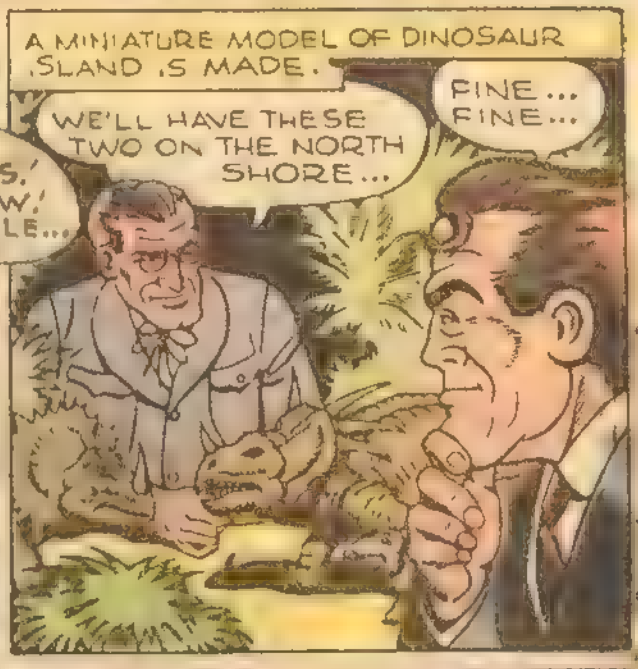
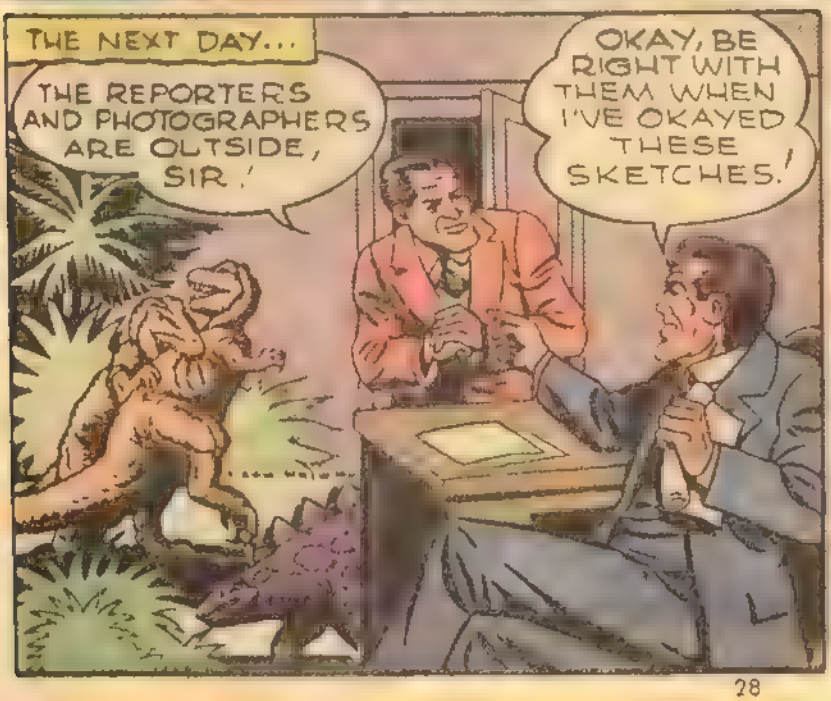
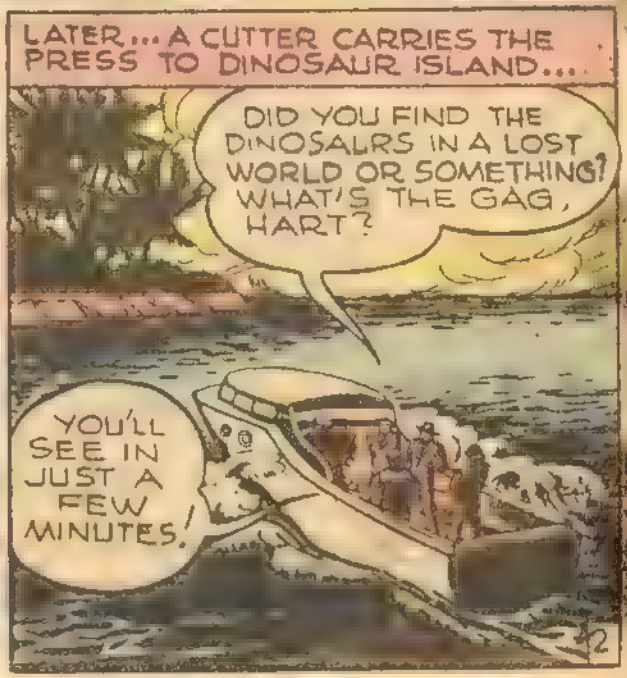

IN THE LUXURIOUS OFFICE OF MURRAY WILSON HART, MASTER SHOWMAN AND SPECIALIST IN THE SPECTACULAR...
MY NEXT SHOW FOR THE PUBLIC MUST BE TERRIFIC... GREATER THAN MY LAST AQUA CARNIVAL, EVEN MORE COLOSSAL THAN MY RECENT ICE FROLICS!
YES, MR. HART!
I'VE GOT IT! THIS MILLION-YEAR OLD MAMMOTH THEY JUST FOUND FROZEN IN A GLACIER! ...I'M INSPIRED!
YES MR. HART!
PREHISTORIC MAMMOTH FOUND IN SIBERIA — PERFECTLY PRESERVED BY GLACIER

MINUTES LATER, A NEW MURRAY WILSON HART PRODUCTION IS UNDER WAY...
GANG, DO YOU KNOW WHAT WERE THE BIGGEST THINGS THAT EVER WALKED ON EARTH?... THE DINOSAURS AND OTHER MONSTERS OF THE PREHISTORIC AGES! I'M GOING TO REVIVE THEM — FOR MY NEXT SHOW! I'LL LEASE AN ISLAND FOR THIS SUPER-SPECTACLE... WE'LL CALL IT DINOSAUR ISLAND!
YES, MR. HART!


A MINIATURE MODEL OF DINOSAUR ISLAND IS MADE.
WE'LL HAVE THESE TWO ON THE NORTH SHORE...
FINE... FINE...


THE NEXT DAY...
THE REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS ARE OUTSIDE, SIR!
OKAY, BE RIGHT WITH THEM WHEN I'VE OKAYED THESE SKETCHES!


LATER... A CUTTER CARRIES THE PRESS TO DINOSAUR ISLAND...
DID YOU FIND THE DINOSAURS IN A LOST WORLD OR SOMETHING? WHAT'S THE GAG, HART?
YOU'LL SEE IN JUST A FEW MINUTES!

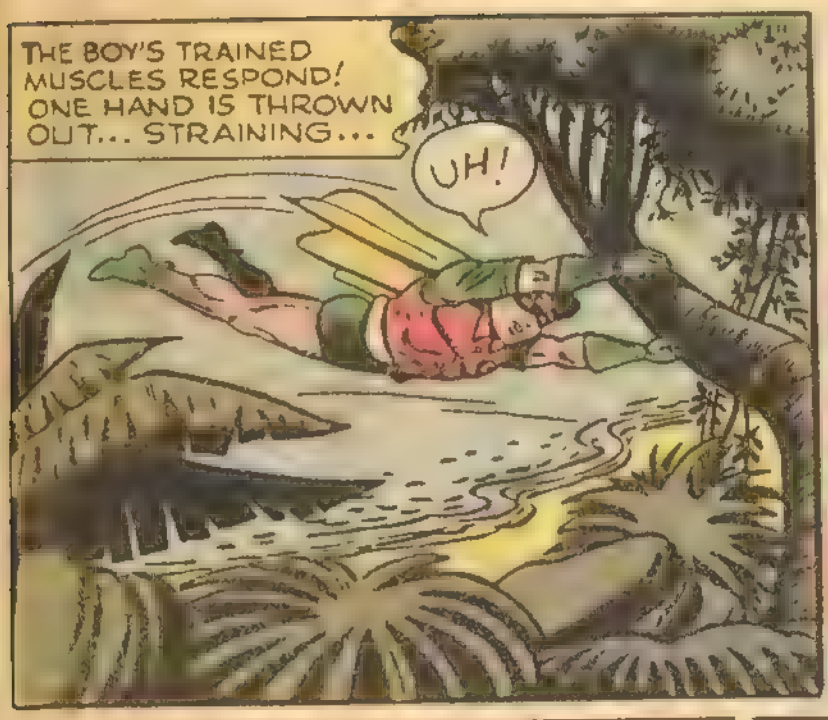
DINOSAUR ISLAND

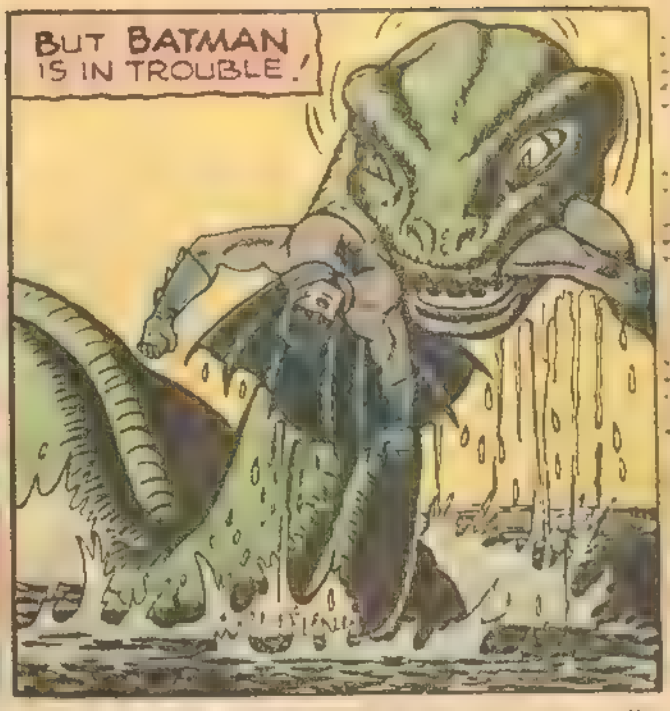
ROBOTS!
RIGHT! ELECTRICAL CONTROLS WILL RUN THEM! MY MECHANICAL MONSTERS WILL ALMOST SEEM ALIVE!
UP THERE WILL BE ROBOT CAVEMEN WHO WILL THROW "ROCKS" OF SPONGE AND "SPEARS" OF CARDBOARD AT CUSTOMERS!
IS IT TRUE YOU'RE GIVING A DINNER FOR BIG GAME HUNTERS AND THAT THEY'LL EAT STEAKS CUT FROM THAT FROZEN MAMMOTH FOUND IN SIBERIA?
YES... MEAT MILLIONS OF YEARS OLD! SHOULD BE TENDER... HEH, HEH! BATMAN AND ROBIN WILL BE GUESTS OF HONOR!
AND ON THE COMPLETION OF DINOSAUR ISLAND...
GENTLEMEN, THOUGH THEY ARE NOT ANIMAL HUNTERS, BATMAN AND ROBIN BELONG HERE SINCE THEY HUNT THE MOST PERILOUS GAME— MAN!
I DISAGREE! A MODERN MANHUNT WOULDN'T COMPARE WITH A DINOSAUR HUNT!
BATMAN, YOU'RE A PRODUCT OF THE 20TH CENTURY! YOUR UTILITY BELT, BATMOBILE, PLANE, ETC., ARE THE WEAPONS OF YOUR HUNT! BUT THE CAVEMAN— HE FOUGHT ENEMIES BARE-HANDED. COULD YOU?
NOT HAVING LIVED THEN, I CAN'T TELL, MR. BREACH.
YOU'RE FORGETTING DINOSAUR ISLAND! EVER PLAY "TOUCH" FOOTBALL? INSTEAD OF TACKLING, YOU TAG YOUR MAN AND HE'S CONSIDERED STOPPED! IT HAS THE EXCITEMENT OF THE REAL GAME BUT THERE'S NO INJURY!
BATMAN, I CHALLENGE YOU AND ROBIN TO A GAME OF "TOUCH" HUNT ON DINOSAUR ISLAND! I'LL PLAY MR. FATE! I'LL SET THE TRAPS, WORK THE CONTROLS - IF A MONSTER "TAGS" YOU, YOU LOSE!
3

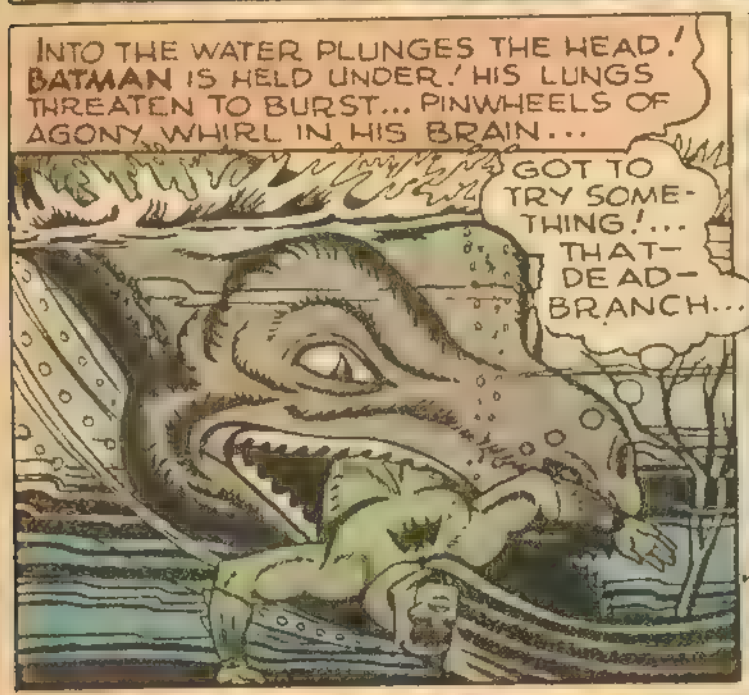
WITHOUT WEAPONS, YOU MUST, FOR 36 HOURS, "SURVIVE" EVERYDAY DANGERS OF THE CAVE-MAN! IF YOU WIN I'LL CONTRIBUTE $5,000 TO YOUR FAVORITE CHARITY!
IF YOU LOSE, BATMAN, I'LL GIVE $5,000 TO MR. BREACH'S CHARITY! THE PUBLICITY WILL COVER IT!
HOW ABOUT IT, ROBIN?
"GAME"—HA! NOT A BAD PUN!
I'M GAME!
GET THE REPORTERS! THIS IS NEWS!
NEWS INDEED! THIS HUNT SOLVES MY PROBLEM! BATMAN WITHOUT WEAPONS, EH? MURDERING HIM WILL BE VERY SIMPLE NOW!
NEXT DAY—NEWS PHOTOGS RECORD A RATHER HISTORY-MAKING SCENE...
ONE BELT-RADIO COMING OFF!
I'LL FEEL STRANGE WITHOUT MY UTILITY BELT AROUND ME...
IT'S JUST 12 NOON! THE GAME BEGINS! BREACH IS WAITING ON THE ISLAND SOMEWHERE! GOOD LUCK!
WELL, YOUNGSTER, WE'RE ALL ALONE NOW!
—EXCEPT FOR BREACH!
BUT BREACH IS NOT ALONE!

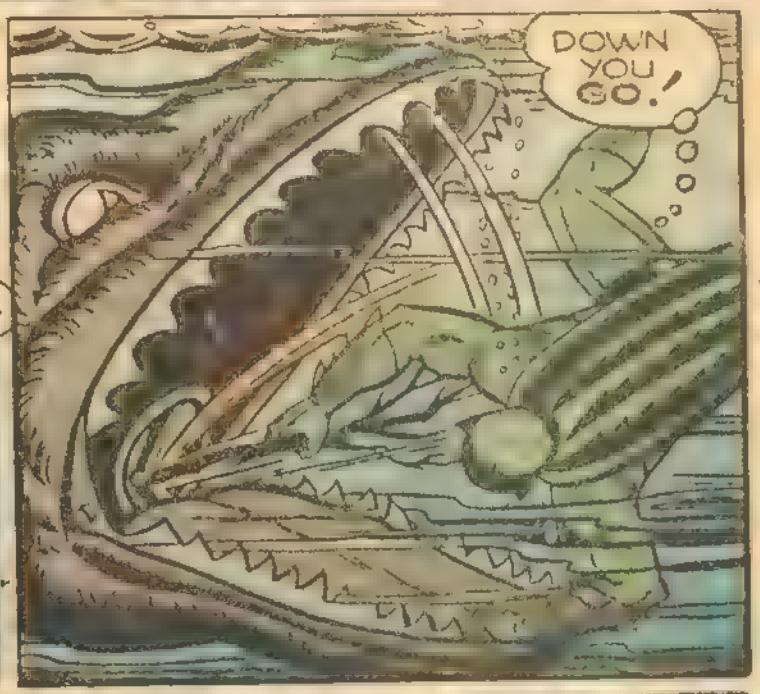
STEPHEN CHASE! WHAT ARE YOU-AAAH-
I'LL TAKE THE BINOCULARS AND THE ROBOT-CONTROLS!
THERE MUST BE NO HINT OF MURDER! TOMORROW POOR BREACH WILL COMMIT "SUICIDE", IN REMORSE, BECAUSE HE HAS ACCIDENTALLY KILLED BATMAN AND ROBIN WITH ONE OF HIS ROBOTS! HA! HA!
AH! ROBIN IS WARNING BATMAN OF THE MECHANICAL CAVEMAN! NOW I CAN TRY A LITTLE TRICK I'VE PREPARED...
CHASE FINGERS THE PANEL-BOARD! BY REMOTE CONTROL HE GUIDES THE INTRICATE MOVEMENTS OF THE ROBOT FIGURE!
HA! HA! THAT SPEAR ALMOST GOT ME. DON'T WORRY, ROBIN! IT'S ONLY CARDBOARD!
OH!
CHASE'S FOXY TRICK!..BATMAN HAS BEEN LULLED INTO FALSE SECURITY!..
NOW HE'LL THROW A "ROCK"... MADE OF SPONGE!
CRASH!
IT IS A REAL ROCK! I SAW SUNLIGHT GLINTING ON ITS SHINY SURFACE! IF IT HAD BEEN SPONGE IT WOULD HAVE BEEN POROUS!
BLESS YOUR EAGLE EYES! IT MUST'VE ROLLED DOWN FROM ABOVE, INTO THE PILE OF SPONGE "ROCKS"!

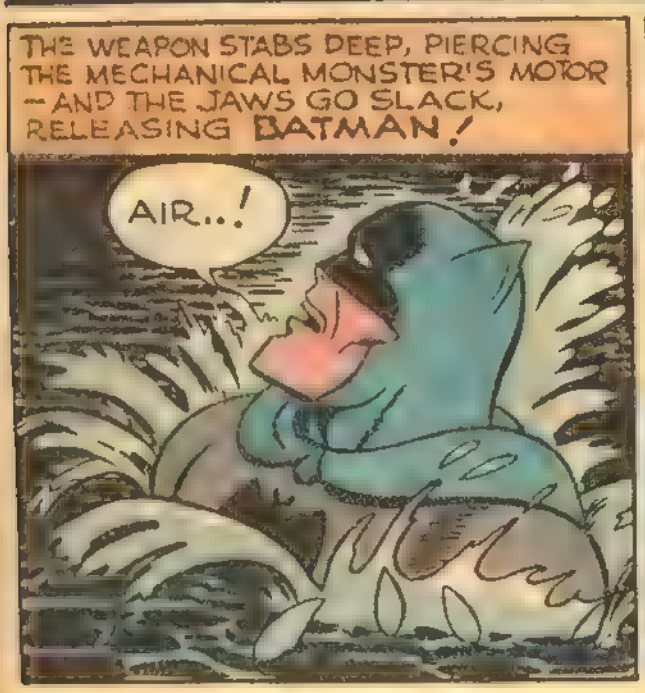
LUCKY... BUT HE'LL NEED MORE THAN LUCK THIS TIME! HA! THIS WILL BE FUN TO WATCH!
HOLY SMOKE! A STYRACO-SAURAS!
WHO CARES WHAT HIS NAME IS! LET'S GIT!
ISN'T BREACH PLAYING KIND OF ROUGH? IF THAT ROBOT STYR- WHAT YOU SAID— HAD HIT US, WE'D BE PLAYING HARPS!
HOP UP ON THIS ISLE! THIS CALLS FOR A COUNCIL OF WAR!
CRASH!
UNEXPECTEDLY, THE TINY ISLE SHUDDERS... HEAVES CONVULSIVELY—
IN AN INSTANT, UNDER THE INSIDIOUS GUIDANCE OF CHASE, THE MONSTER FLINGS ROBIN HIGH INTO THE AIR!
ROBIN!
6

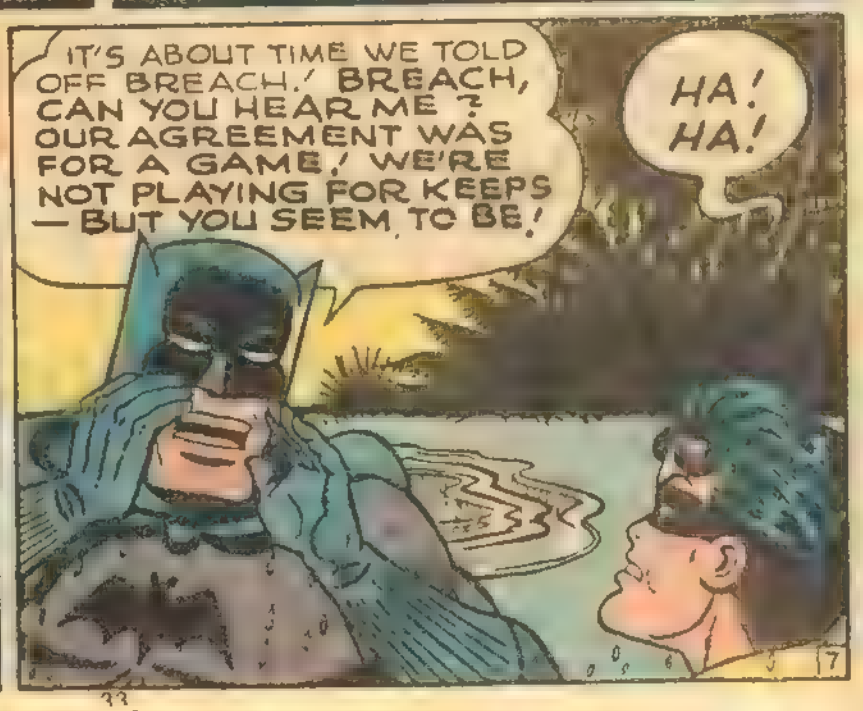

THE BOY'S TRAINED MUSCLES RESPOND! ONE HAND IS THROWN OUT... STRAINING...
UH!


BUT BATMAN IS IN TROUBLE!


INTO THE WATER PLUNGES THE HEAD! BATMAN IS HELD UNDER! HIS LUNGS THREATEN TO BURST... PINWHEELS OF AGONY WHIRL IN HIS BRAIN...
GOT TO TRY SOMETHING!... THAT— DEAD— BRANCH...


DOWN YOU GO!


THE WEAPON STABS DEEP, PIERCING THE MECHANICAL MONSTER'S MOTOR —AND THE JAWS GO SLACK, RELEASING BATMAN!
AIR...!


IT'S ABOUT TIME WE TOLD OFF BREACH! BREACH, CAN YOU HEAR ME? OUR AGREEMENT WAS FOR A GAME! WE'RE NOT PLAYING FOR KEEPS —BUT YOU SEEM TO BE!
HA! HA!

THE NAME IS CHASE.! WE MET AT THE DINNER. REMEMBER? I'M GOING TO MURDER YOU, BATMAN, AND MAKE YOUR DEATH LOOK ACCIDENTAL - SO THAT THE UNDERWORLD WILL BE RID OF YOU.! TALLY HO, BATMAN.!
HA.! HA.! TALLY HO!
THIS IS NO LONGER A GAME.! WE'RE FIGHTING FOR OUR LIVES NOW.! WE'LL NEED WEAPONS...
THE ANCIENT CAVEMAN MADE WEAPONS OF ANIMAL SKELETON BONES.! WE CAN BORROW A TRICK FROM THEM.!
UH-HUH.! THESE IRON AND STEEL "BONES" WILL MAKE ARROW HEADS AND KNIVES...
HOW VERY ENERGETIC.! PERHAPS I CAN MAKE THEM EXPEND MORE ENERGY.! HA.! HA.! I'M REALLY ENJOYING THIS VERY MUCH.!
ONCE AGAIN THE CRIMINAL'S FINGERS SNAKE OVER THE CONTROL PANEL —
LOOK.!!
ROBOT CAVEMEN.!
ROBOT PRIMITIVE AGAINST MODERN MAN.! THE MOST BIZARRE BATTLE EVER FOUGHT.!
(GULP)... IT'S ALMOST LIKE KILLING A REAL MAN.!
BUT THEY'RE NOT REAL MEN.! THEY'RE MACHINES.!
CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING.

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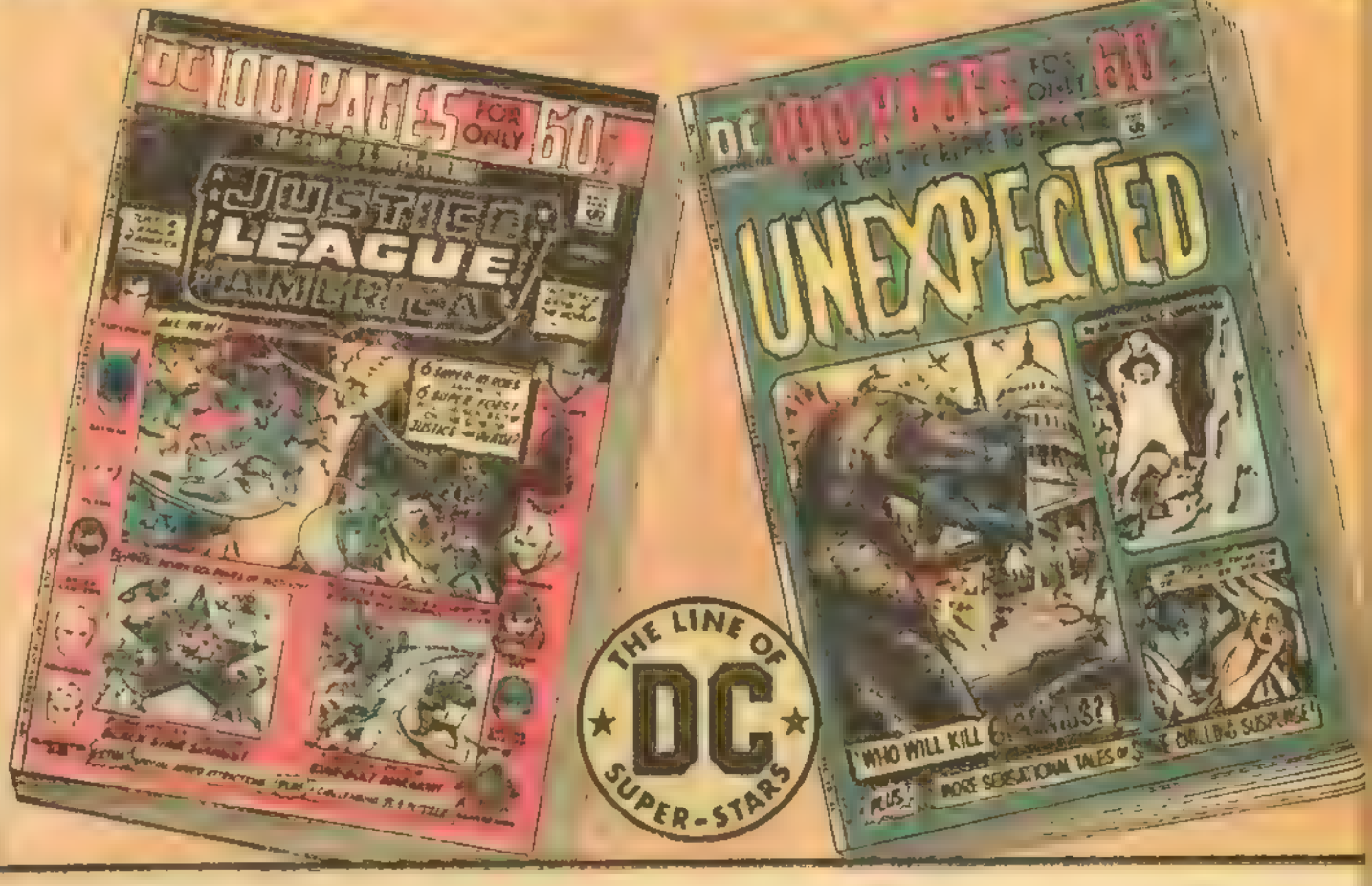
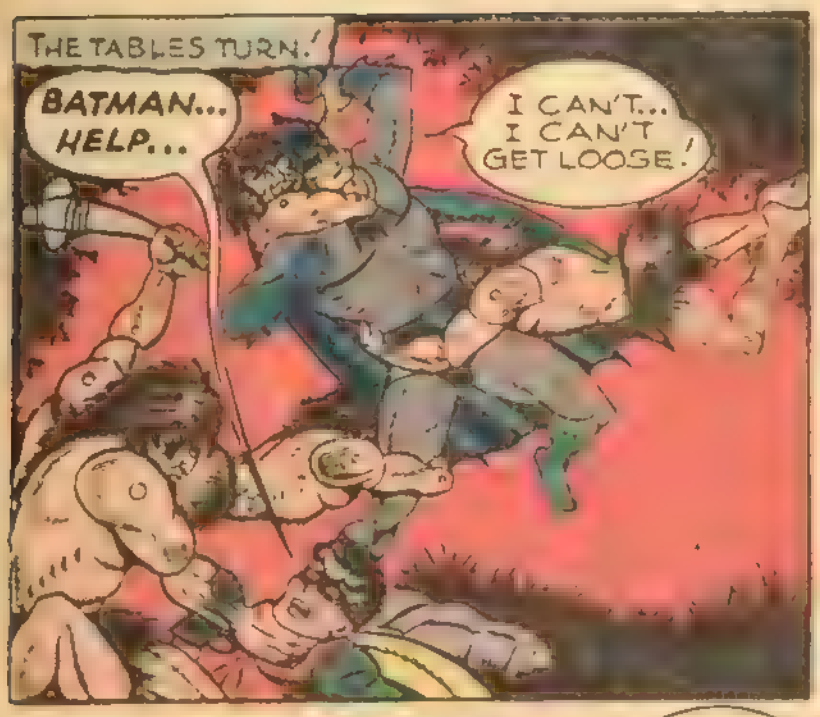
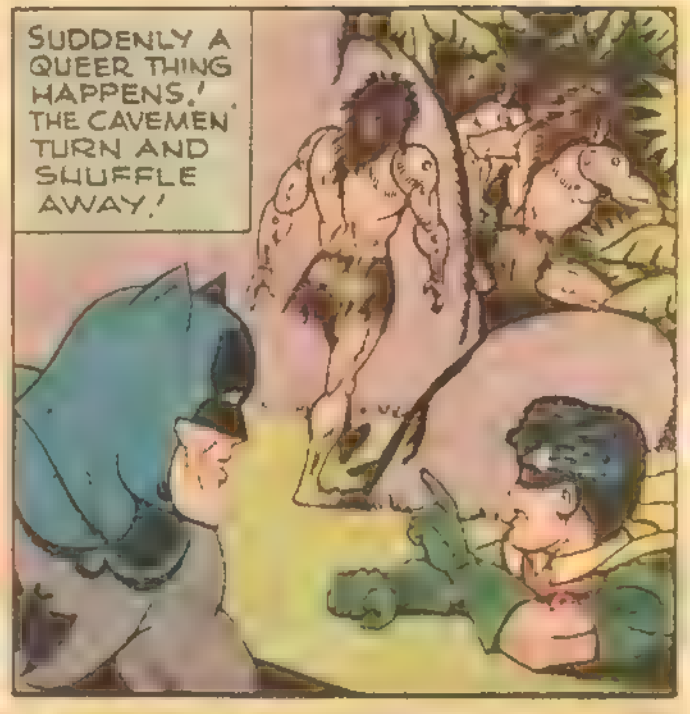
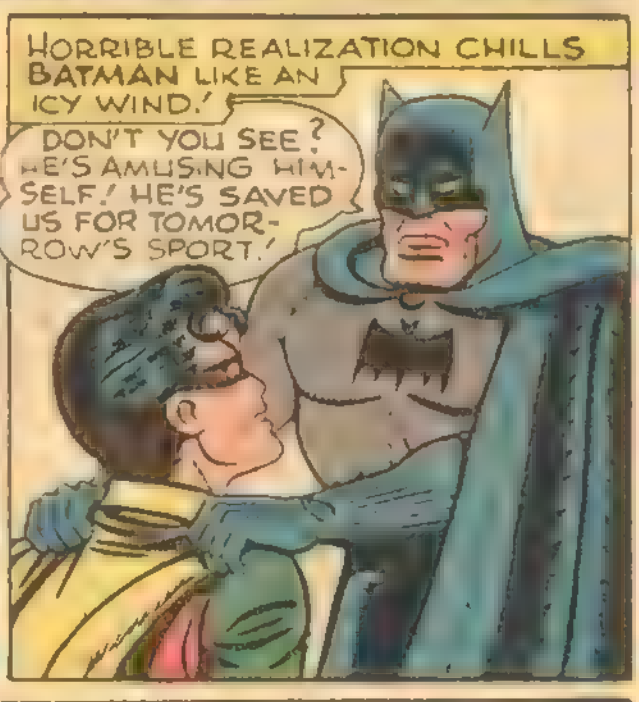


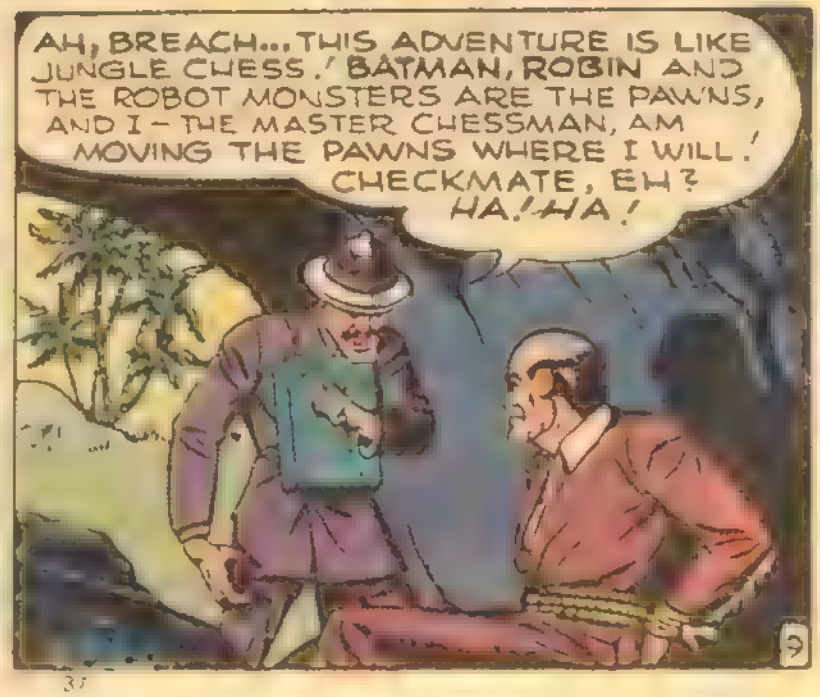

THE TABLES TURN!
BATMAN... HELP...
I CAN'T... I CAN'T GET LOOSE!


SUDDENLY A QUEER THING HAPPENS! THE CAVEMEN TURN AND SHUFFLE AWAY!

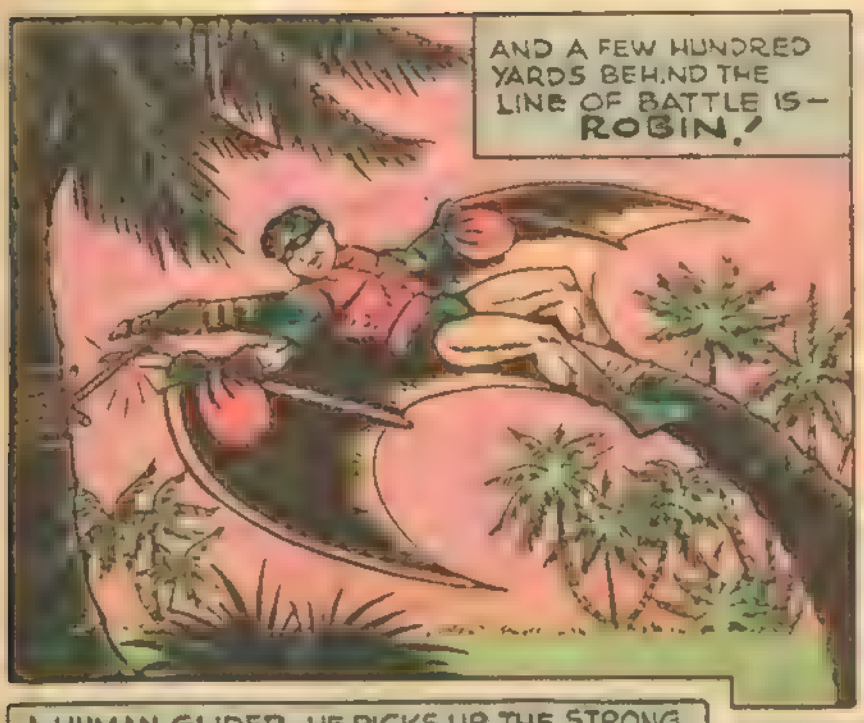
I... I DON'T UNDERSTAND!! WHY DID HE SAVE US??
LISTEN...
HA! HA! HA! HA!

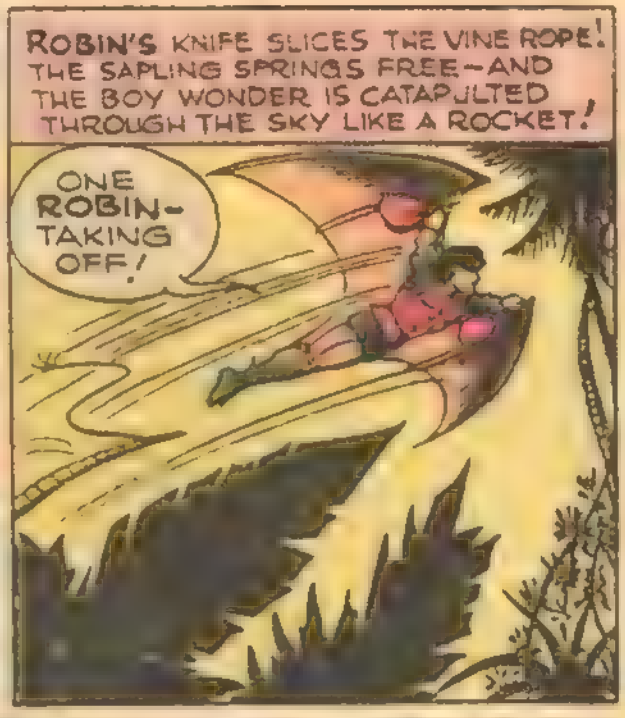

HORRIBLE REALIZATION CHILLS BATMAN LIKE AN ICY WIND!
DON'T YOU SEE? HE'S AMUSING HIMSELF! HE'S SAVED US FOR TOMORROW'S SPORT!

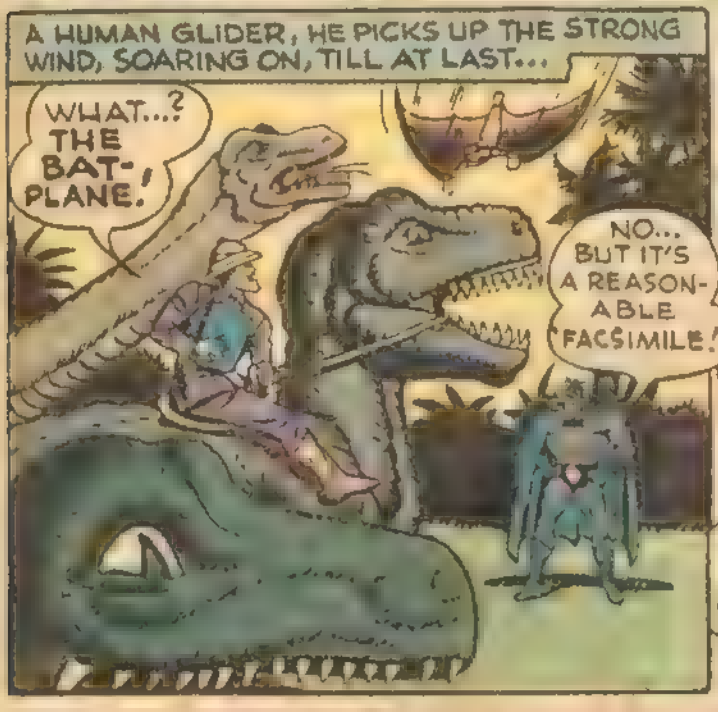
I'LL BE BACK AT DAWN ... LEADING MY ENTIRE WOLF-PACK! REMEMBER ... AT DAWN!

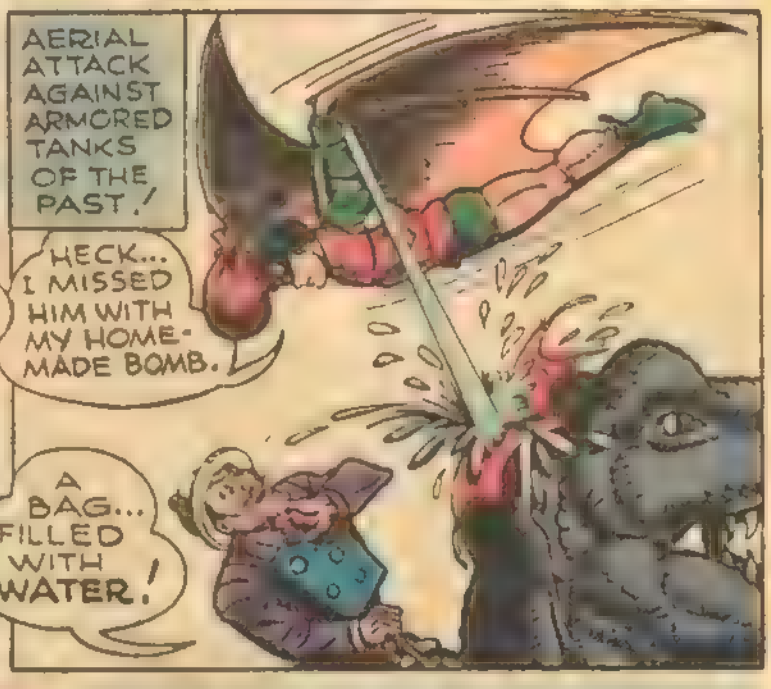

AH, BREACH... THIS ADVENTURE IS LIKE JUNGLE CHESS! BATMAN, ROBIN AND THE ROBOT MONSTERS ARE THE PAWNS, AND I – THE MASTER CHESSMAN, AM MOVING THE PAWNS WHERE I WILL! CHECKMATE, EH? HA! HA!
9

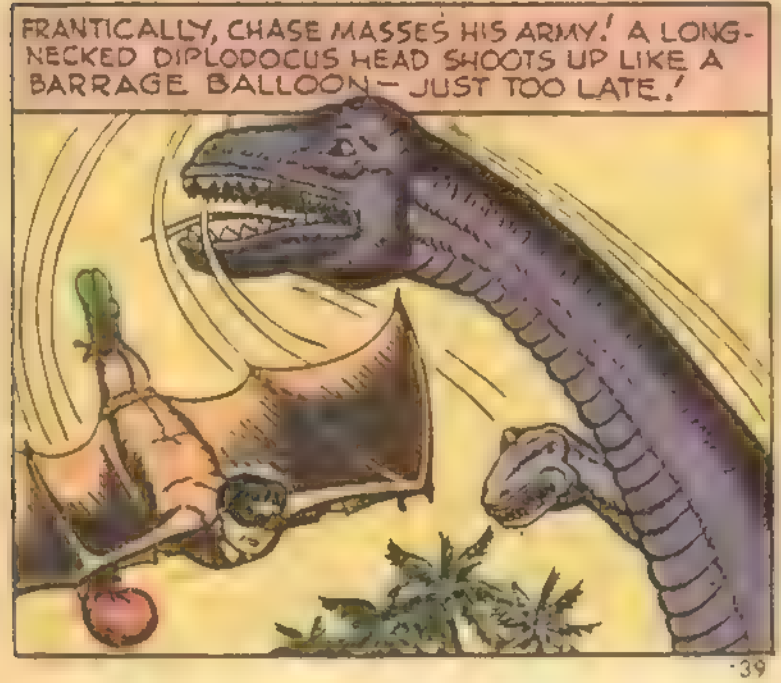
JUNGLE NIGHT! CHASE SLEEPS- BUT BATMAN AND ROBIN, LIKE SUDDENLY CAGED WILDLIFE, ARE APPREHENSIVE, RESTLESS...
WISH I COULD SLEEP!... FUNNY, I THOUGHT I'D BE SCARED, BUT I'M NOT!... GUESS WE'RE IN OVER OUR HEADS THIS TIME!... BATMAN'S WORRIED ... EVEN THOUGH HE DOESN'T ACT IT!
ROBIN'S TAKING THIS OKAY!... HE'S A GREAT KID... I WON'T LET HIM DOWN! I'LL THINK OF SOMETHING ... I'VE GOT TO!
IF ONLY WE HAD YOUR UTILITY BELT! OR THE BATPLANE...
MAYBE WE HAVE!
WHAT'S THE IDEA OF THE ARROW-LINE?
THOSE MECHANICAL PTERODACTYLS! THEY'RE NOT CONTROLLED BY CHASE'S PANEL-BOARD! THEY FLY AUTOMATICALLY, PROBABLY BY SOME ROBOT CONTROL-STATION THAT WORKS AT SET INTERVALS! WE CAN USE ONE OF THOSE FLYING KITES!
ALL NIGHT LONG, THE TWO LABOR, WORKING AGAINST TIME! AND THEN—THE DAWN!
IT'S ALL FINISHED! BATMAN... MAYBE I OUGHT TO BE THE ONE!
NO, ROBIN, I'LL HAVE TO BE THE BAIT THAT'LL LURE CHASE TO THE SPOT WE CHOSE! IT'LL HAVE TO WORK—OR ELSE...
ALONE NOW, BATMAN WAITS! SOON, LUMBERING THROUGH THE FOREST—A PROCESSION OF THE DAWN WORLD!
CURIOUSLY, BATMAN STANDS ROOTED TO THE SPOT. THE PREHISTORIC ARMY CLOSES IN, CUTTING OFF ESCAPE!
BATMAN, ARE YOU SO PETRIFIED WITH FEAR YOU CANNOT MOVE? DON'T BE AFRAID... YOU WILL SOON BE OUT OF YOUR MISERY!
OH-OH, ROBIN... YOU'D BETTER COME QUICK!
10


AND A FEW HUNDRED YARDS BEHIND THE LINE OF BATTLE IS— ROBIN!


ROBIN'S KNIFE SLICES THE VINE ROPE! THE SAPLING SPRINGS FREE—AND THE BOY WONDER IS CATAPULTED THROUGH THE SKY LIKE A ROCKET!
ONE ROBIN— TAKING OFF!


A HUMAN GLIDER, HE PICKS UP THE STRONG WIND, SOARING ON, TILL AT LAST...
WHAT...? THE BAT-PLANE!
NO... BUT IT'S A REASONABLE FACSIMILE!


AERIAL ATTACK AGAINST ARMORED TANKS OF THE PAST!
HECK... I MISSED HIM WITH MY HOME-MADE BOMB.
A BAG... FILLED WITH WATER!


FRANTICALLY, CHASE MASSES HIS ARMY! A LONG-NECKED DIPLODOCUS HEAD SHOOTS UP LIKE A BARRAGE BALLOON— JUST TOO LATE!

ONCE AGAIN THE HUMAN GLIDER RETURNS FOR A BOMBER ATTACK ON THIS PREHISTORIC PANZER DIVISION!
BINGO! A DIRECT HIT!

WATER BURSTS OVER THE CONTROL BOARD, SHORT-CIRCUITING THE ELECTRIC WIRES—AND THE ROBOT-MONSTERS LITERALLY DIE!
CAUGHT IN YOUR OWN TRAP, MR. HUNTER?
WHAT'S WRONG, BIG SHOT... AFRAID YOUR QUARRY MIGHT SHOW HIS TEETH?...
...OR HIS KNUCKLES! THE HUNT'S OVER!
LATER... WHEN THE REPORTERS RETURN AFTER THE 36 HOURS, A SURPRISE AWAITS THEM...
WHY DID CHASE WANT TO KILL BATMAN?
HE WANTED TO START A CRIME COMBINE IN GOTHAM CITY! HE KNEW HE'D HAVE TO KILL BATMAN FIRST! WHEN HE LEARNED BATMAN WAS TO BE STRIPPED OF HIS WEAPONS, HE SEIZED THE CHANCE...
WELL, BATMAN, YOU CERTAINLY WON THE GAME... AGAINST TOUGHER ODDS THAN WE BOTH EXPECTED!
YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN, BROTHER!
HOW'S ABOUT SOME PIX? WHERE'S CHASE?
THERE... IN A CAGE... BUT THEY'RE DUSTING OUT A STRONGER ONE FOR HIM AT THE STATE PEN!
THE END

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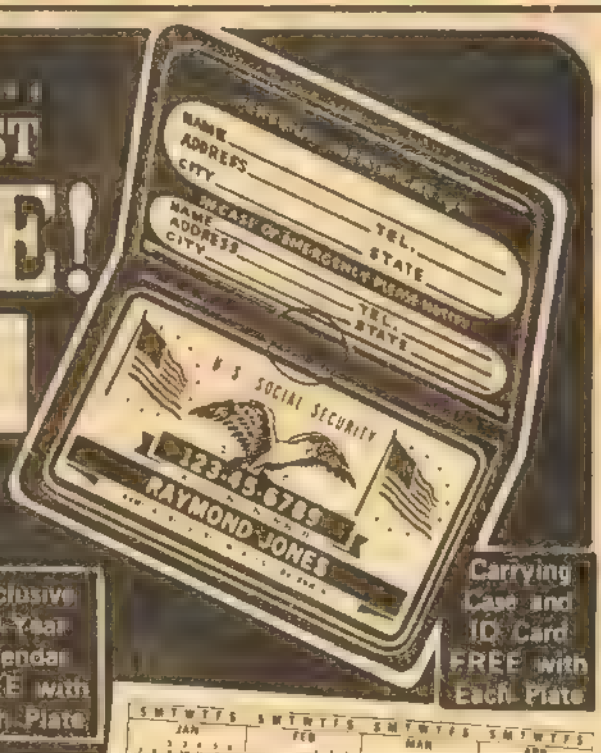

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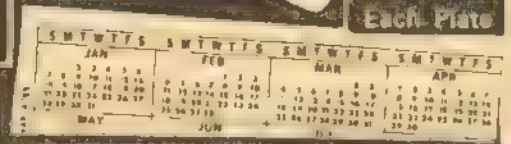

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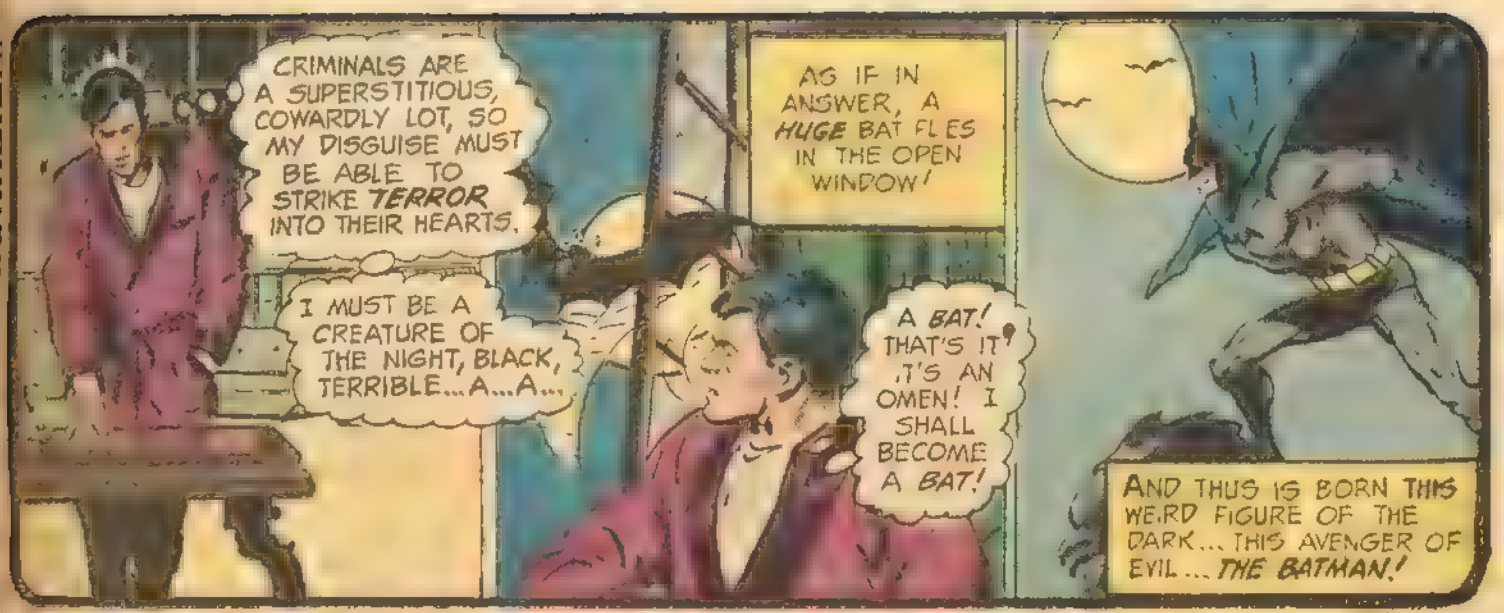
(As of August 12, 1970, Section 3685, Title 39, United States Code)

1. Title of Publication: BATMAN
2. Date of Filing: October 1, 1973
3. Frequency of Issue: Monthly (except March, May, August and December)
4. Location of Known Office of Publication: 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019
5. Location of the Headquarters or General Business Offices of the Publishers: 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019
6. Names and Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor: Publisher: National Periodical Publications, Inc., 75 Rockefeller Plaza, N.Y., N.Y. 10019. Editor: Julius Schwartz, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, N.Y., N.Y. 10022. Managing Editor: None
7. Owner: National Periodical Publications, Inc., wholly owned by Warner Communications, Inc., a publicly held company, both at 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019
8. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and other Security Holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of Bonds, Mortgages or Other Securities: None
9. For optional completion by publishers mailing at the regular rates: In accordance with the provisions of this statute, I hereby request permission to mail the publication named in Item 1 at the reduced postage rates presently authorized by 39 U.S.C. 3626. Bernard Kashdan, Business Manager
10. For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at special rates: not applicable

11. Extent and Nature of Circulation

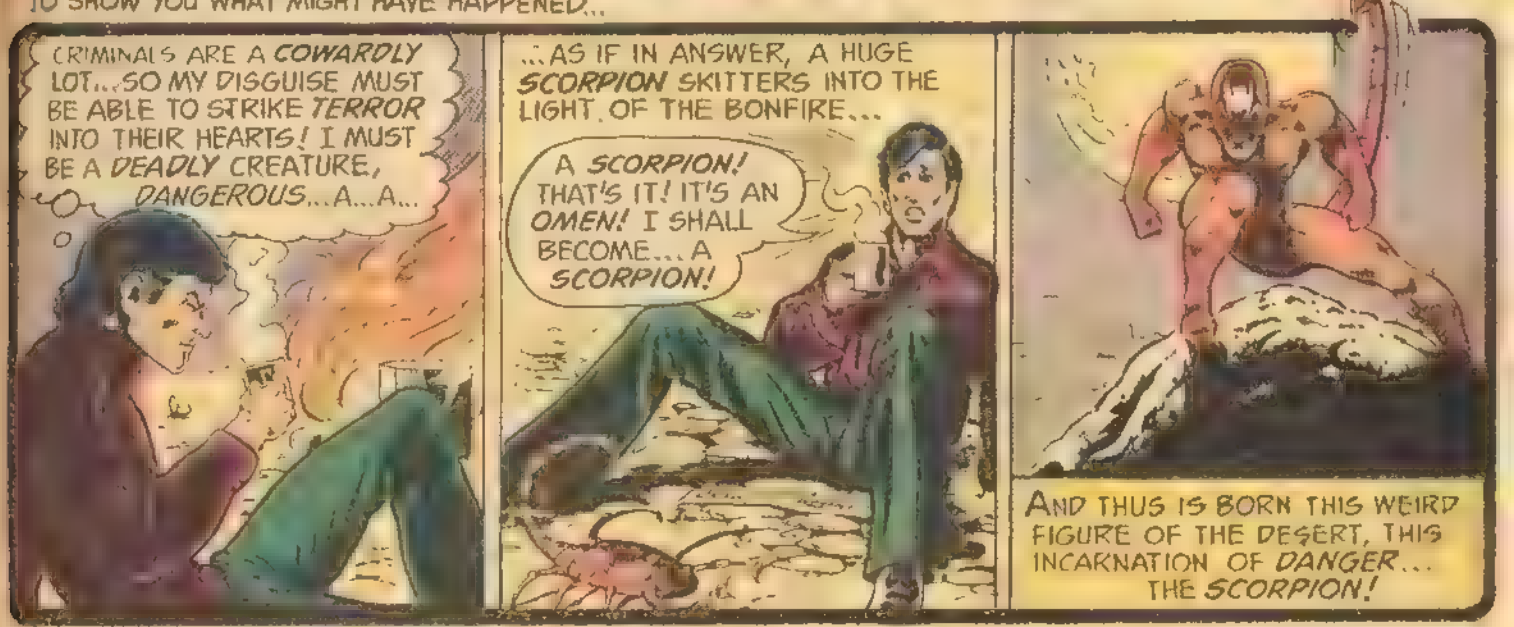
11A. Total number copies printed (Net Press Run): Average number copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 390,625. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 421,000. 11B. Paid circulation. 1. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales: Average number copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 199,072. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 170,792. 2. Mail subscriptions: Average number copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 1,502. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 2,008. 11C. Total paid circulation: Average number copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 200,574. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 172,800. 11D. Free distribution by mail, carrier or other means: 1. Samples, complimentary, and other free copies: Average number copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 100. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 100. 2. Free copies distributed to news agents, but not sold: Average number copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 187,512. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 243,800. 11E. Total distribution (Sum of C and D): Average number copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 388,186. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 416,700. 11F. Office use, left-over, unaccounted, spoiled after printing: Average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 2,439. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 4,300. 11G. Total (Sum of E & F—should equal net press run shown in A): Average number copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 390,625. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 421,000. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete. (Signed) Bernard Kashdan

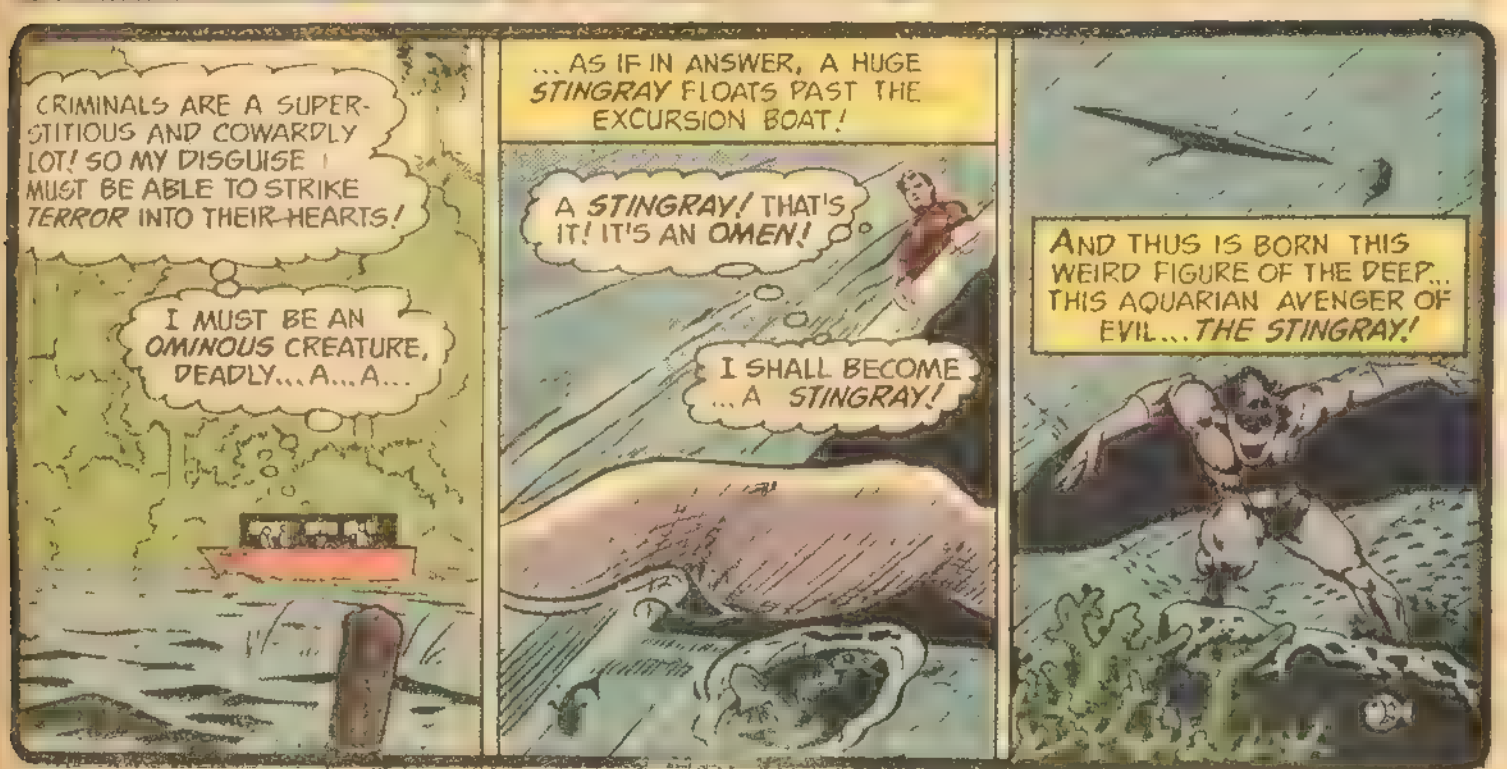

CRIMINALS ARE A SUPERSTITIOUS, COWARDLY LOT, SO MY DISGUISE MUST BE ABLE TO STRIKE TERROR INTO THEIR HEARTS.
I MUST BE A CREATURE OF THE NIGHT, BLACK, TERRIBLE...A...A...
AS IF IN ANSWER, A HUGE BAT FLES IN THE OPEN WINDOW!
A BAT! THAT'S IT! IT'S AN OMEN! I SHALL BECOME A BAT!
AND THUS IS BORN THIS WEIRD FIGURE OF THE DARK... THIS AVENGER OF EVIL... THE BATMAN!

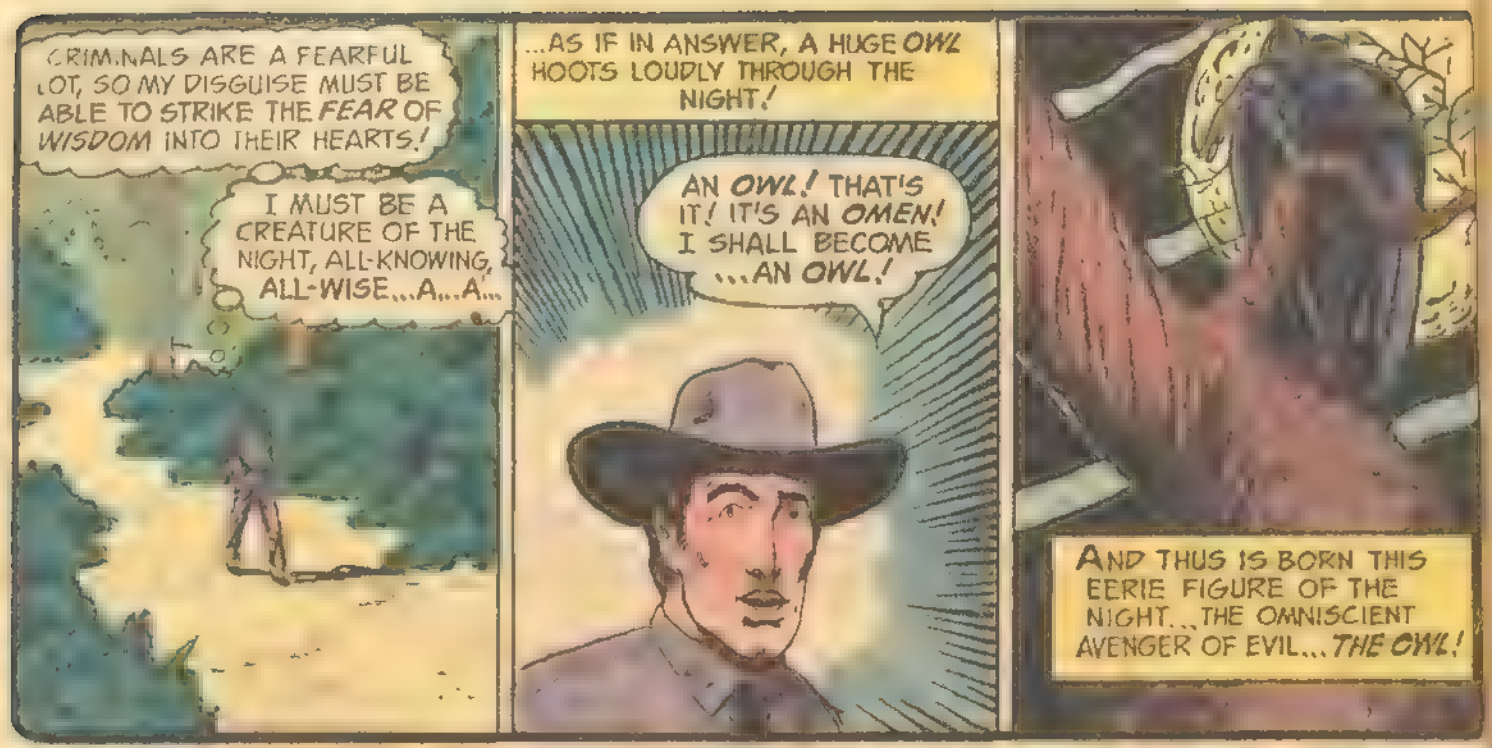
N 919

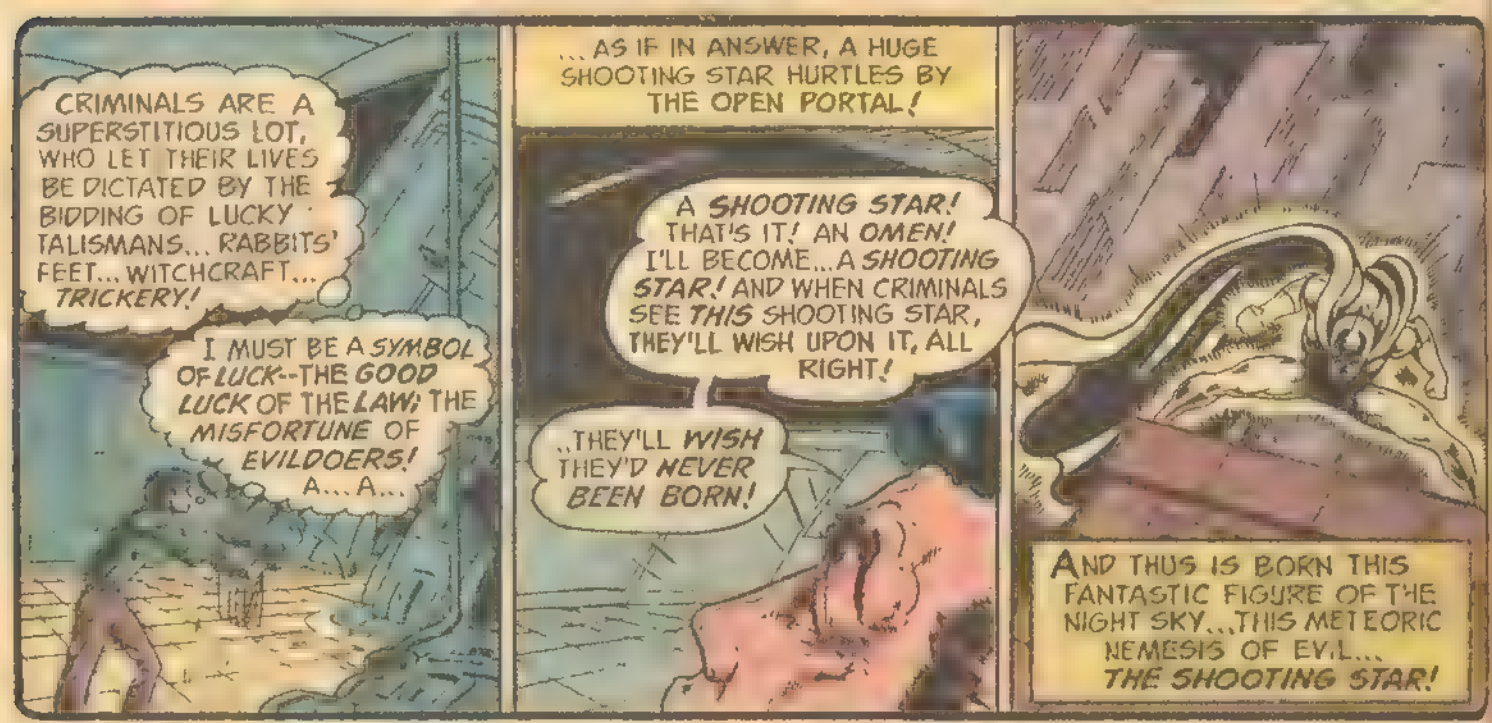
BY SHEER CHANCE, THE LEGENDARY NIGHT-SHROUDED CAREER OF THE DREAD BATMAN WAS SPAWNED IN AN INSTANT'S ENCOUNTER WITH A BAT! BUT SUPPOSE FOR A MOMENT THAT THE "OMEN" HAD BEEN A DIFFERENT CREATURE! WE TAKE YOU NOW TO DIFFERENT LOCALES AND DIFFERENT ENCOUNTERS, TO SHOW YOU WHAT MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED..

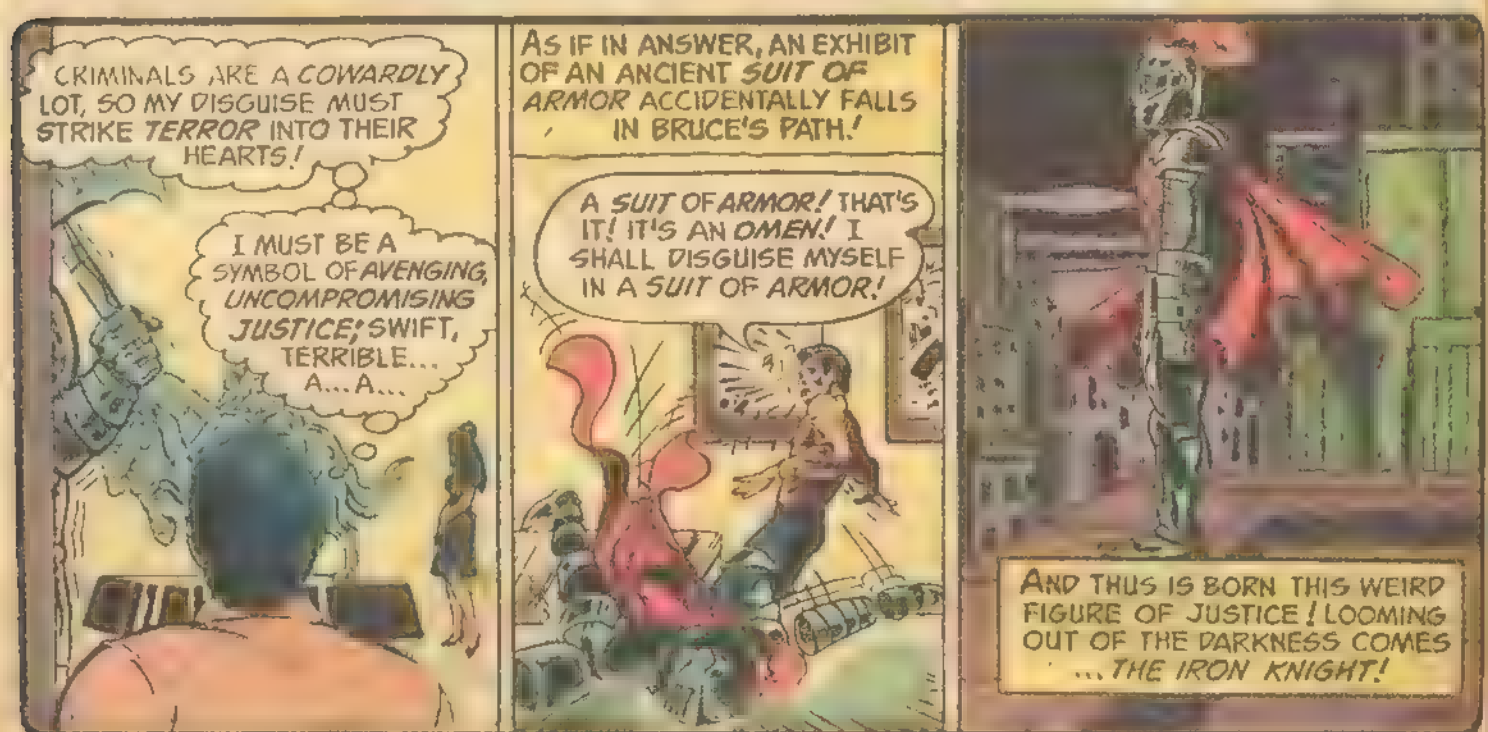
IF BRUCE WAYNE HAD NOT BECOME THE BATMAN


CRIMINALS ARE A COWARDLY LOT...SO MY DISGUISE MUST BE ABLE TO STRIKE TERROR INTO THEIR HEARTS! I MUST BE A DEADLY CREATURE, DANGEROUS...A...A...
...AS IF IN ANSWER, A HUGE SCORPION SKITTERS INTO THE LIGHT OF THE BONFIRE...
A SCORPION! THAT'S IT! IT'S AN OMEN! I SHALL BECOME... A SCORPION!
AND THUS IS BORN THIS WEIRD FIGURE OF THE DESERT, THIS INCARNATION OF DANGER... THE SCORPION!


CRIMINALS ARE A SUPERSTITIOUS AND COWARDLY LOT! SO MY DISGUISE MUST BE ABLE TO STRIKE TERROR INTO THEIR HEARTS!
I MUST BE AN OMINOUS CREATURE, DEADLY... A... A...
...AS IF IN ANSWER, A HUGE STINGRAY FLOATS PAST THE EXCURSION BOAT!
A STINGRAY! THAT'S IT! IT'S AN OMEN!
I SHALL BECOME ...A STINGRAY!
AND THUS IS BORN THIS WEIRD FIGURE OF THE DEEP... THIS AQUARIAN AVENGER OF EVIL... THE STINGRAY!


CRIMINALS ARE A FEARFUL LOT, SO MY DISGUISE MUST BE ABLE TO STRIKE THE FEAR OF WISDOM INTO THEIR HEARTS!
I MUST BE A CREATURE OF THE NIGHT, ALL-KNOWING, ALL-WISE...A...A...
...AS IF IN ANSWER, A HUGE OWL HOOTS LOUDLY THROUGH THE NIGHT!
AN OWL! THAT'S IT! IT'S AN OMEN! I SHALL BECOME ...AN OWL!
AND THUS IS BORN THIS EERIE FIGURE OF THE NIGHT...THE OMNISCIENT AVENGER OF EVIL...THE OWL!


CRIMINALS ARE A SUPERSTITIOUS LOT, WHO LET THEIR LIVES BE DICTATED BY THE BIDDING OF LUCKY TALISMANS... RABBITS' FEET... WITCHCRAFT... TRICKERY!
I MUST BE A SYMBOL OF LUCK--THE GOOD LUCK OF THE LAW; THE MISFORTUNE OF EVILDOERS! A...A...
...AS IF IN ANSWER, A HUGE SHOOTING STAR HURTLES BY THE OPEN PORTAL!
A SHOOTING STAR! THAT'S IT! AN OMEN! I'LL BECOME...A SHOOTING STAR! AND WHEN CRIMINALS SEE THIS SHOOTING STAR, THEY'LL WISH UPON IT, ALL RIGHT!
...THEY'LL WISH THEY'D NEVER BEEN BORN!
AND THUS IS BORN THIS FANTASTIC FIGURE OF THE NIGHT SKY...THIS METEORIC NEMESIS OF EVIL... THE SHOOTING STAR!


CRIMINALS ARE A COWARDLY LOT, SO MY DISGUISE MUST STRIKE TERROR INTO THEIR HEARTS!
I MUST BE A SYMBOL OF AVENGING, UNCOMPROMISING JUSTICE; SWIFT, TERRIBLE... A...A...
AS IF IN ANSWER, AN EXHIBIT OF AN ANCIENT SUIT OF ARMOR ACCIDENTALLY FALLS IN BRUCE'S PATH!
A SUIT OF ARMOR! THAT'S IT! IT'S AN OMEN! I SHALL DISGUISE MYSELF IN A SUIT OF ARMOR!
AND THUS IS BORN THIS WEIRD FIGURE OF JUSTICE! LOOMING OUT OF THE DARKNESS COMES ...THE IRON KNIGHT!

THE RARE FEW WHO HAVE *SEEN* THE INCREDIBLE *BATCAVE'S TROPHY ROOM* AGREE THAT OUR MOST *INTRIGUING* MEMENTO IS THE GIANT PENNY WHICH WAS INVOLVED IN THE *FOLLOWING* CASE...

BATMAN WITH ROBIN THE BOY

ONE OF THE MOST COMMON OF ALL OBJECTS IS A *PENNY.!* YES... JUST OUR ORDINARY ONE-CENT COIN! ALL OF US... RICH OR POOR... USE PENNIES... WHETHER IT BE FOR A NEWSPAPER OR FOR A BIT OF CANDY! WE HANDLE PENNIES AND NEVER GIVE THEM ANOTHER THOUGHT! BUT, IT WAS NOT SO WITH JOE COYNE. HE THOUGHT ABOUT PENNIES ALL THE TIME. TO HIM A PENNY WAS A SYMBOL — OF CRIME! WHY? HOW? THE ANSWER IS IN THE FOLLOWING PAGES AS BATMAN AND ROBIN TACKLE THE DRAMATIC CASE OF...

"The PENNY PLUNDERERS!"

STORY BILL FINGER

BOB KANE

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BECAUSE HIS PARENTS ARE PENNILESS, YOUNG JOE COYNE SELLS PAPERS... AND DOES A BUSINESS IN PENNIES...
THREE CENTS? HERE'S A NICKEL, SON... KEEP THE CHANGE!
CHANGE! A MEASLY TWO CENTS! WHAT CAN I DO WITH THAT- BUY A STAMP?!
PENNIES! OTHER GUYS HAVE BIG BILLS, -BUT I'VE GOT PENNIES! BUT WAIT TILL I GROW UP...
CHOOSING THE PATH TAKEN BY WEAK FOOLS, COYNE TURNS TO CRIME... BUT IS ARRESTED ON HIS FIRST TRY!
PENNIES... AGAIN!
YOU CERTAINLY PICKED THE WRONG PLACE TO ROB, BUDDY... THIS CASH REGISTER HAS ONLY A FEW PENNIES IN IT!
BUT WHEN HE DOES, HE LOSES A GOOD JOB UPON BEING CAUGHT PITCHING PENNIES...
THAT'S THE SECOND TIME I'VE CAUGHT YOU GAMBLING! YOU'RE FIRED!
BLINK!
WHEN I GET OUT, I'LL GET BACK AT COPPERS AND PENNIES! I'LL FIGHT COPPERS- WITH PENNIES! EVERY JOB I PULL WILL INVOLVE PENNIES! MY CRIME SYMBOL WILL BE PENNIES!
AND THEN COYNE MAKES HIS VOW!
IN PRISON, COYNE BROODS OVER HIS FATE!
PENNIES... AND COPPERS! THEY DID THIS TO ME! PENNIES... COPPERS... COPPER PENNIES! I HATE THEM ALL!
1645
2

THE PENNY PLUNDERERS

UPON HIS RELEASE, COYNE FORMS A COMPANY DEALING IN PENNY SLOT AND VENDING MACHINES—AS A MASK FOR HIS CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES.'
BOYS, WE MAY BE IN THE PENNY BUSINESS... BUT IT'S GOING TO BRING US MILLIONS.'
AND SO BEGIN THE "PENNY PLUNDER" CRIMES! THE FIRST EXPLOIT TAKES PLACE AT THE GOTHAM BANK...
I'VE GOT A HUNDRED PENNIES IN THAT ROLL! I'D LIKE A BILL IN EXCHANGE.'
CERTAINLY, SIR! JUST A MOMENT WHILE I CHECK THE ROLL.'
TELLER
YEAH, CHUMP... IT'S REALLY A TEAR GAS BOMB.'
AAGGH!
NEXT IS THE "KIDNAPING" OF A RARE COLLECTION OF ANTIQUE PENNY BANKS.'
THIS GUY'S A MILLIONAIRE! HE'LL PAY A PRETTY PENNY IN RANSOM MONEY TO GET HIS PRECIOUS HOBBY BACK!
IT IS INEVITABLE THAT THE NEWS SHOULD INTEREST BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON... IN REALITY—FAMED BATMAN AND ROBIN.'
SOMEBODY MUST HAVE PENNIES ON THE BRAIN.'
I AGREE, DICK... IT'S PROBABLY A SORT OF MANIA! HMM... HERE'S ONE ITEM OUR PENNY PLUNDERER WOULDN'T OVERLOOK—AND NEITHER WILL WE.'
AM NEWS
RARE "ONE-PENNY BLACK" IN LOCAL COIN AND STAMP EXHIBITION
PRICELESS ONE-CENT STAMP, FIRST TO BE ISSUED IN BRITAIN'S HISTORY, WAS INITIALED BY QUEEN VICTORIA HERSELF

LATER...AT THE EXHIBITION...
OKAY, BOYS! NOW!
POSTAGE
ONE CENT
1947
AT THE SIGNAL FROM COYNE, HANDFULS OF SHINY NEW PENNIES ARE SUDDENLY FLUNG ABOUT...
HERE Y'ARE, FOLKS— PENNIES FROM HEAVEN!
WHAT..?
OH!
WHILE THE VISITORS ARE DISTRACTED BY THE UNUSUAL "SHOWER", COYNE MOVES FAST. BUT—
NOW FOR THIS RARE ONE-PENNY BLACK...
YOUR FUTURE'S GOING TO BE BLACK IF YOU SMASH THAT CASE!
BATMAN AND ROBIN! LET'S LAM!
NOT YOU, BROTHER!
THE "PENNY" ROBBER... STOPPED BY A "PENNY"!
THIS WAY! WE'LL GET OUT THROUGH THE SKYLIGHT!

THE PENNY PLUNDERERS

BUT THE ACRO BATMAN BOUNDS TOWARD A HUGE REPLICA OF STAMP TONGS AT THE EXHIBIT!
AND THE TONGS SPRING UP TO CATAPULT BATMAN THROUGH SPACE!
POSTAGE
MY JOB IS TO STAMP OUT CRIME... AND THIS IS AN APPROPRIATE PLACE TO DO IT!
THIS ROLL OF PENNIES WILL KNOCK THAT IDEA RIGHT OUTA YOUR HEAD!
LATER... WHEN BATMAN'S HEAD CLEARS...
THEY GOT AWAY... CLEAN AWAY!
NOT SO CLEAN! THEY LEFT A LITTLE RESIDUE BEHIND! THIS RAT!
MEANWHILE, COYNE IS UNEASY...
THEY GOT SKINNY! YA THINK BATMAN KIN MAKE HIM TALK?
I WONDER...? MIKE, SUPPOSE YOU STICK AROUND AND CHECK UP!
5

AND AT THAT MOMENT...
TALK! IF YOU DO, IT WILL GO EASIER WITH YOU!
OKAY! THE B-BOSS IS JOE COYNE! HIS HIDEOUT IS THE P-PENNY ARCADE ON ELM AVENUE! BUT HE'D KILL ME IF HE EVER LEARNS I SQUEALED!
NOW I'LL CALL A POLICEMAN TO TAKE YOU TO HEADQUARTERS WHILE ROBIN AND I CALL ON COYNE.'
IF I ONLY HAD MY GAT, I COULD KNOCK OFF BATMAN NOW. HMM... I'LL FIX SKINNY FOR SQUEALING.'
LATER... AS SKINNY AND THE PATROLMAN TURN A CORNER...
MIKE.'
UH!
YEAH, SKINNY... I COME TO RESCUE YOU.' AIN'T THAT NICE O' ME?
SOON... AFTER A SHORT-CUT TO THE HIDE-OUT...
WE-ELL, SKINNY... WELCOME HOME! SEE, BOYS... I GOT HIM AWAY FROM THE COPPER.' I TAKE CARE OF THE BOYS IN MY MOB... ESPECIALLY A LOYAL BOY LIKE SKINNY.'
Y-YEAH HEH-HEH... TH-THANKS, B-BOSS!
SKINNY, I'M WORRIED ABOUT YOUR HEALTH.' YOU BEEN LOSING WEIGHT? LET'S SEE.' AND YOU'LL GET YOUR FORTUNE, TOO.'
A PENNY DROPPED INTO THE SLOT... AND A SMALL CARD DROPS INTO SHAKING FINGERS!
YOUR FORTUNE
It isn't good! your future is very dark! The future is always dark for STOOL PIGEONS!

THE PENNY PLUNDERERS

A HUMAN TARGET IS ADDED TO THE PENNY ARCADE'S SHOOTING GALLERY!
DON'T... GIMME A BREAK... DON'T... DON'T SHOOT.. DON'T...
YEAH... YOUR FUTURE IS PLENTY DARK!
LATER...
COYNE'S HIDEOUT IS BOARDED UP FOR THE NIGHT.' NO LIGHTS.'
WE'RE GOING IN.' WE'LL TRY A SIDE WINDOW.'
PENNY ARCADE
IT'S SKINNY. HE'S BEEN SHOT.'
TOUGH.' BUT THAT'S ALWAYS THE RISK A FELLOW TAKES WHEN HE TURNS CRIMINAL.'
BATMAN.' LOOK- SOMEBODY'S PUT A PENNY ON HIS LIPS.'
THAT'S GANG-LAND'S WAY OF SAYING THEY'VE SEALED HIS LIPS.' IT'S THEIR WARNING THAT A STOOLIE'S LIFE IS NOT WORTH A COPPER PENNY WHEN HE SQUEALS TO A COPPER.'
SUDDENLY, THE LIGHTS SWITCH ON, AND-
AIN'T IT THE TRUTH, COPPER.'
17

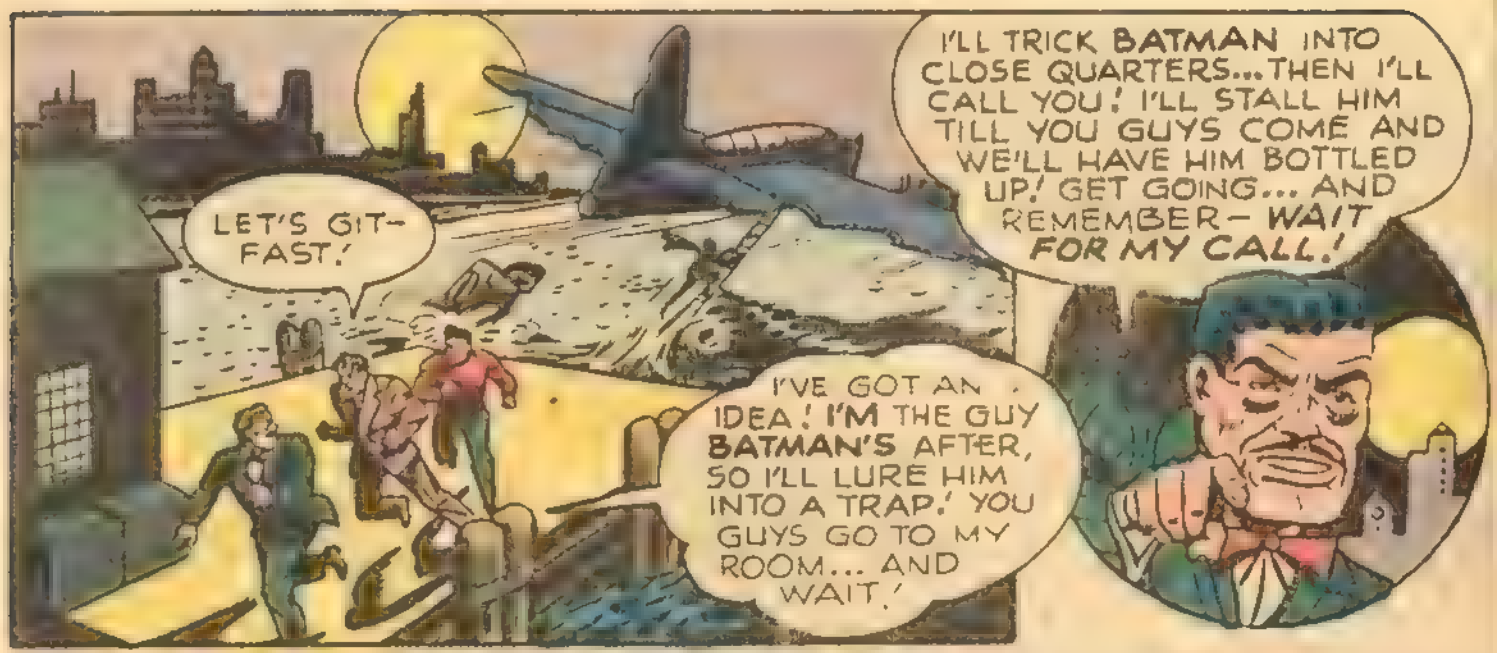
REALIZING THE BEST DEFENSE IS OFFENSE, THE DYNAMIC DUO ATTACKS!
RIGHT ON THE TARGET!
BONG
FEEL LIKE ANSWERING THE SIGN'S QUESTION FOR ME?
BONG!
HOW HARD CAN YOU HIT?
BUT COYNE SHREWDLY FLIPS SOME PENNIES UNDER ROBIN'S FEET AND—
TILT!
YOW!
SLIPPERY, AREN'T THEY?
UH!
FOR AN INSTANT, BATMAN'S ATTENTION IS DISTRACTED... AND HE DOES NOT SEE COYNE'S HAND CLOSE TIGHTLY ABOUT A ROLL OF PENNIES...
WEIGHTED HEAVILY WITH THE IMPROVISED "BRASS KNUCKLES, COYNE'S FIST SLEDGE-HAMMERS BATMAN'S JAW!
HAPPY DREAMS, TOUGH GUY!
8

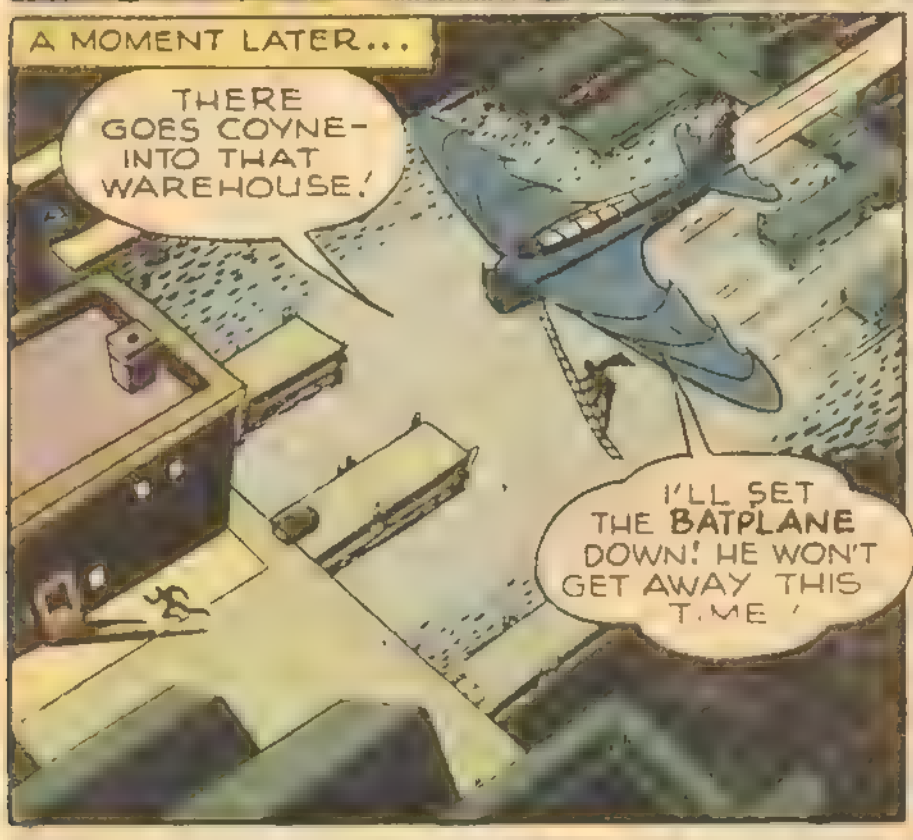
THE PENNY PLUNDERERS

LATER... AN AWAKENING IN A WINDOWLESS ROOM...
YOU'VE TAKEN OUR UTILITY BELTS!
YEAH! AND I'VE ALSO RIPPED OUT THE TELEPHONE WIRES! NOW ME AND MY BOYS ARE ON OUR WAY...
SPICES
SO LONG! HERE'S TWO CENTS—THAT'S ALL YOUR LIVES WILL BE WORTH IN A LITTLE WHILE! HA! HA!
THE STOUT DOOR IS BOLTED—AND THE TWO CRIME-FIGHTERS ARE ALONE WITH DEATH!
CARBON MONOXIDE GAS! THAT FINISHES US!
NEVER SAY DIE, ROBIN! AH... THERE! A SLIVER OF GLASS FROM THIS SLOT MACHINE WILL CUT OUR ROPES—AND THEN THE TWO PENNIES COYNE THREW AT US WILL HELP US ESCAPE!
FIRST, I'LL NEED SALTED WATER!
I HOPE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING—'CAUSE I DON'T!
COYNE DID US A FAVOR BECAUSE HE THREW US ONE OLD COPPER PENNY... AND ONE NEW ZINC-COATED PENNY, OF THE TYPE ISSUED DURING THE WAR!
NOW I PLACE A PIECE OF BLOTTING PAPER BETWEEN THE PENNIES, TIE THEM TOGETHER WITH THIS TELEPHONE WIRE—AND IMMERSE IT IN THE SALT WATER...
ZINC... COPPER... IN SALT WATER! YOU'VE MADE A MIDGET ELECTRIC BATTERY!
YES! IT'S TO SUBSTITUTE FOR THE TELEPHONE-BOX-BATTERY REMOVED BY COYNE! MY BATTERY WILL GENERATE JUST ENOUGH CURRENT FOR ME TO TAP OUT AN S.O.S. ON THE EXPOSED TELEPHONE WIRE WITH MY BATTERY WIRE!
9

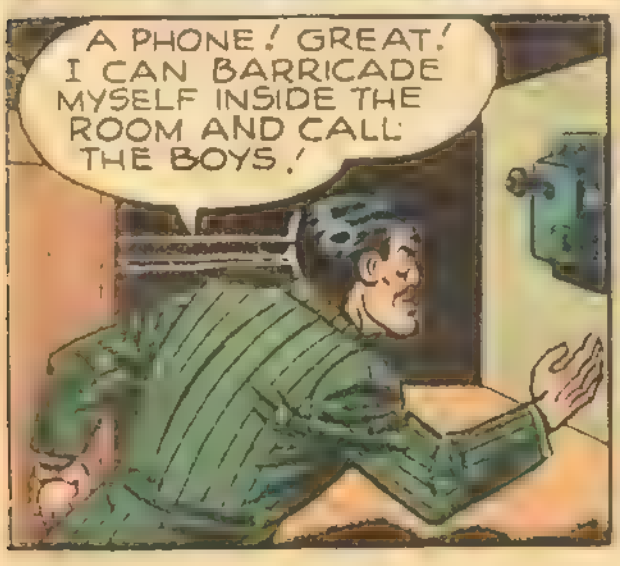
THE BATMAN'S DISTRESS SIGNALS ARE FLASHED TO THE OFFICES OF THE TELEPHONE COMPANY...
MORSE CODE.! OHHH.!
S.O.S.- PENNY ARCADE ON ELM AVENUE- HURRY- BATMAN-
SHORTLY AFTER, POLICE AXES BREAK DOWN THE DOOR...
(COUGH) BOY, AM I GLAD TO BREATHE FRESH AIR AGAIN.!
THANKS FOR THE ASSIST, BOYS... BUT NOW ROBIN AND I WILL TAKE OVER.! WE'VE GOT TO LOCATE COYNE.!
LATER... IN COYNE'S DESK, A CLUE IS UNEARTHED...
HERE'S SOMETHING! A RENTAL ORDER FROM MILLIONAIRE J. J. WITHERS FOR COIN MACHINES TO BE USED AT A PARTY ON HIS HOUSEBOAT. AND THEY'RE TO BE DELIVERED TONIGHT.! IT'S WORTH INVESTIGATING!
MEANWHILE- ON THE MILLIONAIRE'S LUXURIOUS HOUSEBOAT...
A PENNY SLOT MACHINE PARTY.! WITHERS, YOU DO THROW THE MOST NOVEL AFFAIRS!
IT WILL BE LOTS OF FUN PLAYING THE MACHINES, FOLKS... STEP UP AND GET YOUR PENNIES.!
BUT THE MACHINES WERE RIGGED BY COYNE, AND AS THE PENNIES ARE INSERTED INTO THE SLOTS, THEY SET OFF TEAR GAS AND SMOKE BOMBS.!
AGGH! COUGH.!
COUGH!
HELP.! I CAN'T SEE!
THEN, LIKE MODERN PIRATES, THE PENNY PLUNDERERS BOARD THE HOUSEBOAT.!
THIS IS A STICKUP.!
EEEK!
WHA-AAT?

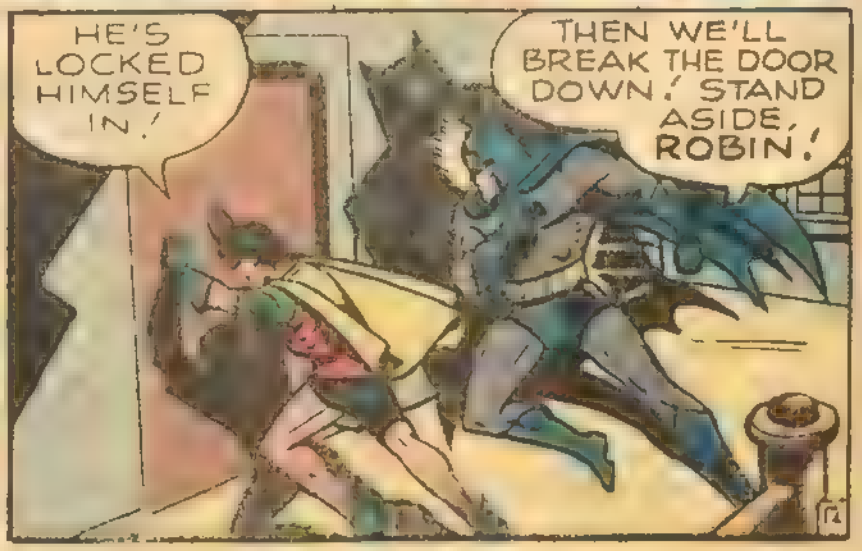
MOMENTS LATER...
WE GOT EVERYTHING! SHOVE OFF!
(GULP) LOOK! THE BATPLANE!
A ROPE LADDER IS LOWERED— AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER, SKIS ACROSS THE WATER!
OKAY, BATMAN... WE'VE GOT THEM ON THE RUN!
BLAST HIM. HE'S GETTING CLOSE! AGHH... MISSED!
BLAM!
BLAM!
THE SKI'S THE LIMIT!
MIND IF I KNOCK WOOD?
OUT OF CONTROL, THE BOAT SWERVES TOWARD THE DOCK WITHOUT WARNING!
WOW!
CRASH!


LET'S GIT—FAST!
I'LL TRICK BATMAN INTO CLOSE QUARTERS...THEN I'LL CALL YOU! I'LL STALL HIM TILL YOU GUYS COME AND WE'LL HAVE HIM BOTTLED UP! GET GOING... AND REMEMBER— WAIT FOR MY CALL!
I'VE GOT AN IDEA! I'M THE GUY BATMAN'S AFTER, SO I'LL LURE HIM INTO A TRAP! YOU GUYS GO TO MY ROOM... AND WAIT!


A MOMENT LATER...
THERE GOES COYNE—INTO THAT WAREHOUSE!
I'LL SET THE BATPLANE DOWN! HE WON'T GET AWAY THIS TIME!

CAUTIOUSLY, THEY ENTER— AND RECEIVE A BANG-UP WELCOME!
HA, HA! COME AND GET ME!


A PHONE! GREAT! I CAN BARRICADE MYSELF INSIDE THE ROOM AND CALL THE BOYS!


HE'S LOCKED HIMSELF IN!
THEN WE'LL BREAK THE DOOR DOWN! STAND ASIDE, ROBIN!

THE PENNY PLUNDERERS

A THICK DOOR! IT'LL HOLD 'EM FOR AWHILE! NOW... I'LL CALL THE BOYS TO RUB 'EM OUT! IT'S A 'PAY PHONE! I'LL NEED FIVE CENTS.'
THUMP!
COYNE'S HAND COMES OUT OF HIS POCKET WITH ALL THE COINS HE IS CARRYING—FIVE CENTS—BUT IN PENNIES!
AND THEN COYNE REALIZES HE IS LOST. HIS OBSESSION FOR PENNIES HAS BECOME HIS DOOM.
NO... THEY'RE NO GOOD TO ME.. NO GOOD AT ALL! IT'S A PAY PHONE! I NEED A SINGLE NICKEL TO BE ABLE TO DIAL!
BETRAYED BY PENNIES!
RESIGNED TO INEVITABLE DEFEAT, COYNE TURNS... AS BATMAN AND ROBIN CRASH IN!
READY TO COME ALONG WITH US, COYNE?
YES... I KNOW WHEN I'M BEATEN!
AND LATER IT IS IRONICAL THAT THE END OF THE PENNY PLUNDERER CAN BE SO EASILY LEARNED BY SO MANY—FOR JUST A FEW PENNIES!
COYNE GUILTY OF MURDER! READ ALL ABOUT IT IN THE GOTHAM GAZETTE! ONLY THREE CENTS!
COYNE SENTENC TO DEATH
THE END
3

BAT-PUZZLE

by BOB ROZAKIS

DIRECTIONS

Figure out the mystery clues below and then fill in the letters in the numbered spaces above. The result will be a famous superhero quote. (Note: The small letters in the boxes above correspond to the clues below.) Clue A is done as an example.

a. Cattle used for beef ..... STEER
88 68 12 49 98

b. The Batman's home town ..... GOTHAM
112 36 22 83 56 4

c. Fuel we use to drive our ..... OIL
105 3 58

d. The Batman's secret identity ..... BRUCE WAYNE
94 11 25 1 67 29 100 34 75 55

e. The sun goes this in the morning ..... RISE
70 111 9 80

f. Alien criminal—a Ghul ..... RAG
2 85 44

g. When the Batman sets a trap for a ..... BAIT
57 4 26 101

h. Two items of clothing you might wear when going to the opera ..... SUIT & TIE
14 102 74 37 114 5

i. A crook does this to send the Batman on the wrong trail ..... LIES
8 84 109 26

j. Animal used in deserts and on mountain trails ..... MULE
40 15 33 104

k. Bruce Wayne's butler ..... ALFRED
10 35 106 71 59 32

l. A person who visits other places ..... TOURIST
[illegible]

m. The [illegible] of the——man ..... HOUR
79 28 46 103

n. Robin's secret identity ..... DICK GRAYSON
[illegible]

o. Pow-Wow Smith to Longbow ..... TRIBE
[illegible]

p. The Batmobile's spare [illegible] ..... TIRE
[illegible]

q. Smokey grime found in chimneys ..... SOOT
52 24 39 63

r. While battling the criminal at Ghul's Batcave disco ..... MATCHES
[illegible]

s. Need for water ..... THIRST
78 108 47 86 19 53

t. "Letters—the Batman" ..... TO
20 61

u. The Batman's partner in WORLD'S FINEST. ..... SUPERMAN
48 91 16 84 82 90 96 110

THE SOLUTION APPEARS ON PAGE **95.**

GOLD CROWN

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- 2 CATAPULTS — actually hurls [illegible] Castle walls
- 10 BOULDERS* for catapults
- 2 GOAT HEAD RAMS*—actually used to force the Castle gates
- 2 DOUBLE DOOR CASTLE GATES - that actually open and close
- 2 DRAW BRIDGES — that actually raise and lower
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- 1 ARROW SPINNER

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- 1 HUGE REALISTIC UNION STOCKADE FORT
- 4 SHELTERED OBSERVATION TOWERS* • 2 FORT FLAGS with masts
- 6 FIELD CANNONS* — 12 spoked wheels
- 2 ARMIES* 64 Troops in Blue and Grey fully equipped and in all battle positions
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*3 D plastic safe and reusable

2 FORTS SPLIT LOOT TYPE

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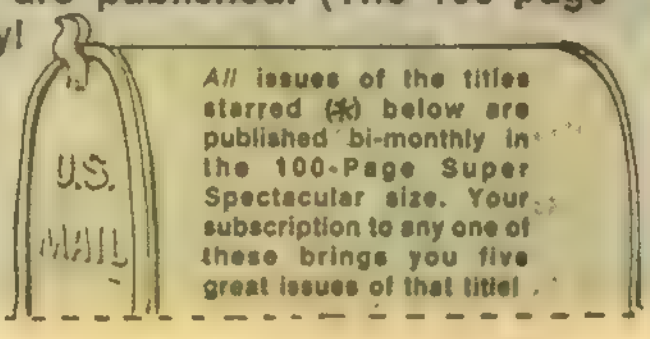

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- 12 ☐ DETECTIVE✱
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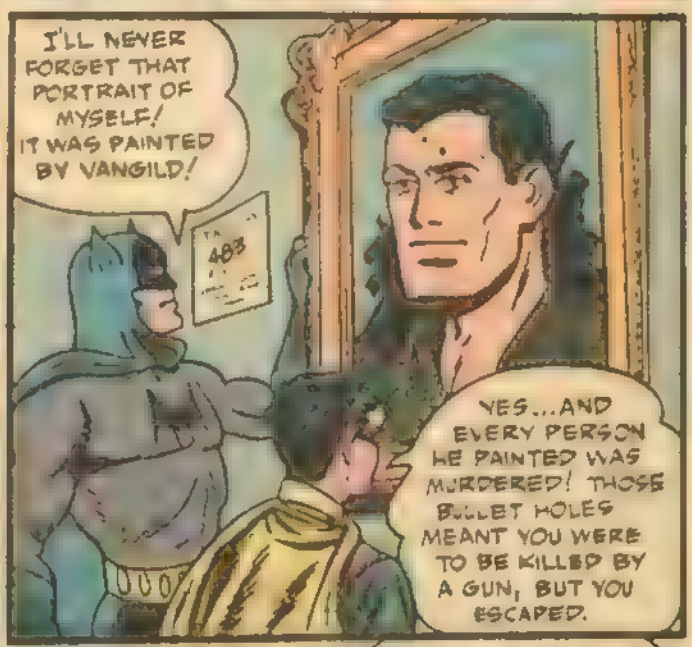
ALLOW 10 WEEKS FOR FIRST DELIVERY!

OUR FEW VISITORS HAVE ASKED ABOUT THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ORDINARY-LOOKING BULLETPROOF VEST THAT OCCUPIES A SPECIAL PLACE IN OUR TROPHY ROOM! AND WHEN THEY DO, I ALWAYS TELL THEM THIS NEXT STARTLING STORY--OF THE INCREDIBLE SECRET OF TROPHY NO. 41. LISTEN...
BATMAN
WITH ROBIN
WANTED
©1942 BY DETECTIVE COMICS, INC.
HALL OF TROPHIES!
A GLOVED HAND REACHES EAGERLY FOR THE COMBINATION LOCK OF A SIX-INCH-THICK STEEL DOOR!
THE TWIRL OF A DIAL ... A CLICK OF TUMBLERS ... AND THE IMPENETRABLE DOOR SWINGS OPEN ..

TWO MANTLED FIGURES STAND AT THE THRESHOLD OF A VAST ROOM: BATMAN AND ROBIN!
GOLLY BATMAN, WE SURE ARE FILLING UP THIS ROOM FAST!
YES,..ANOTHER FEW CASES AND WE'LL HAVE TO ADD A NEW WING TO THE PLACE!
THE BATMAN'S HALL OF TROPHIES...SYMBOL OF HIS THOUSAND AND ONE VICTORIES OVER CRIME!

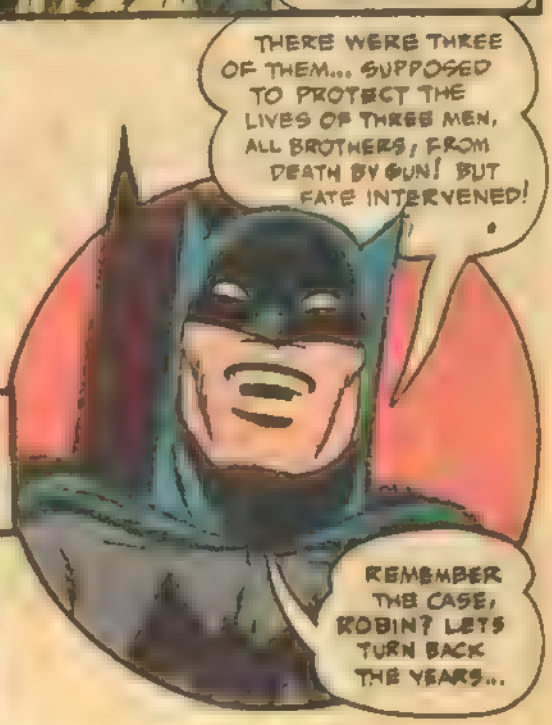
REMEMBER THIS DECOY DUCK, ROBIN?
YES, THE JOKER USED IT TO AID HIS ESCAPE FROM THE STATE PENITENTIARY A CLEVER STUNT!

THIS IS ONE UMBRELLA THE PENGUIN WON'T BE USING AGAIN! TRICKY LITTLE GADGET, EH?
I'M GLAD I'M NOT ON THE RECEIVING END OF THIS GAS!


I'LL NEVER FORGET THAT PORTRAIT OF MYSELF! IT WAS PAINTED BY VANGILD!
YES...AND EVERY PERSON HE PAINTED WAS MURDERED! THOSE BULLET HOLES MEANT YOU WERE TO BE KILLED BY A GUN, BUT YOU ESCAPED.

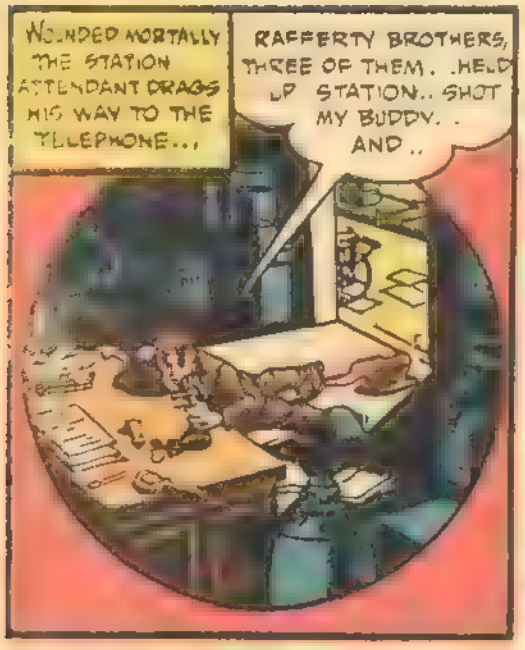
THE CRIME-SMASHER OPENS STILL ANOTHER GLASS CASE AND...
LOW BRIDGE, BATMAN!
WHEN! I FORGOT THAT THIS THING STILL WORKS!

FINALLY..THE TWO COMPANIONS COME TO THE LAST EXHIBIT IN THE GREAT HALL OF TROPHIES..
YOU KNOW, ROBIN, OF ALL THE OBJECTS IN OUR COLLECTION OF TROPHIES, THIS BULLETPROOF VEST IS THE STRANGEST.
LAST USED BY Peter Rafferty JUNE, 1939 TROPHY NO 41


THERE WERE THREE OF THEM... SUPPOSED TO PROTECT THE LIVES OF THREE MEN, ALL BROTHERS, FROM DEATH BY GUN! BUT FATE INTERVENED!
REMEMBER THE CASE, ROBIN? LETS TURN BACK THE YEARS...

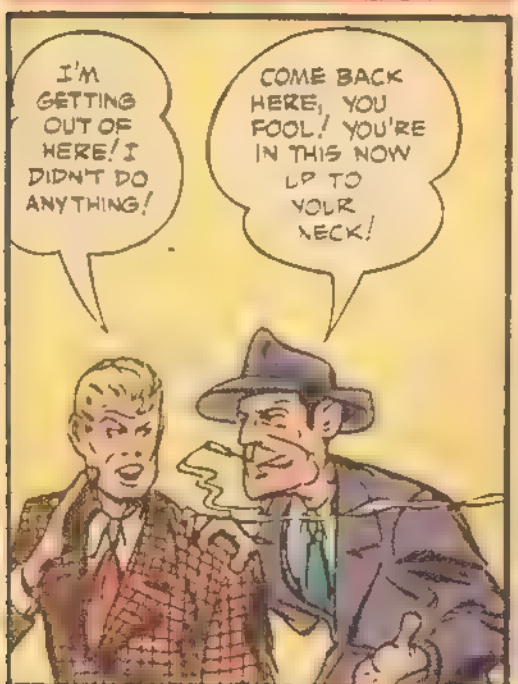
BROTHERS IN CRIME

1939
MAY 11 AND YOUNG PETER RAFFERTY STANDS BEFORE THE WARDEN OF THE STATE PENITENTIARY!
YOU'RE A FREE MAN NOW, RAFFERTY! YOU'VE PAID YOUR DEBT TO SOCIETY, BUT HOW LONG YOU STAY FREE IS UP TO YOU.. AND YOUR TWO OLDER BROTHERS!
I'VE LEARNED MY LESSON, SIR! THEY WON'T TALK ME INTO CRIME...
I'M GLAD TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT, RAFFERTY! HERE'S TEN DOLLARS AND A RAILROAD TICKET TO THE CITY. GOOD LUCK!
THANKS, WARDEN... YOU WON'T BE SEEING ME AGAIN!
THE GRIM PRISON GATES CLANG SHUT BEHIND YOUNG RAFFERTY...
KEEP OFF
AH..THIS FRESH AIR SMELLS GOOD IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I SAW THE SUNLIGHT FROM OUTSIDE THE YARD.
Suddenly...
STEVE ... MIKE! WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING HERE?
HOP IN KID! WE'RE YOUR BROTHERS, AIN'T WE?
HONK HONK
WE'VE MISSED YOU, FELLA!
IT'S NO GO, MIKE! I'M GOING STRAIGHT! I LEARNED A TRADE IN PRISON AND I'M GOING TO STICK TO IT. NO MORE RAPS FOR ME!
DON'T BE A SAP, KID! WE'RE CUTTING YOU IN ON ALL THE JOBS WE PULL! HERE'S A ROLL FOR A START!
IT'S NO USE, MIKE. COUNT ME OUT!
OKAY, PETE! HEY, BUDDY, FILL 'ER UP!
SURE THING! MUST BE GOING ON A LONG TRIP, EH?
GAS
RIGHT! AND YOU'RE GOING ON A LONGER TRIP!
HEY...
AAGH!
CRACK
3
STEP ON THE GAS, STEVE! I TOOK HIS DOUGH!
...AND I'LL FINISH THE OTHER GUY!
THE RAFFERTY BROTHERS... THEY'VE KILLED DUGAN! OWW!
17 GAS


WOUNDED MORTALLY THE STATION ATTENDANT DRAGS HIS WAY TO THE TELEPHONE...
RAFFERTY BROTHERS, THREE OF THEM. .HELD UP STATION.. SHOT MY BUDDY. . AND ..

AND INSIDE A COTTAGE RETREAT, MILES OFF THE STATE HIGHWAY...
YOU'RE... YOU'RE KILLERS!
PIPE DOWN, PUNK! LOOK AT THE TAKE! IT'LL LAST US A WEEK! TURN ON THE RADIO INSTEAD OF GABBING .. SEE WHAT THE COPS KNOW!

...CLICK... HELD UP A GAS STATION AND SHOT ITS ATTENDANT! THEY HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS THE ...
HEY... DO YOU HEAR THAT?


I'M GETTING OUT OF HERE! I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING!
COME BACK HERE, YOU FOOL! YOU'RE IN THIS NOW UP TO YOUR NECK!

THINK THE COPS WILL BELIEVE YOU? DON'T BE A SAP! YOU'RE WANTED, KID.. JUST LIKE ME!
YEAH... AND YOU MIGHT AS WELL HANG FOR A WOLF AS FOR A SHEEP!

I.. I.. GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT!..
THAT'S THE SPIRIT, KID! AND NOW WE'LL MAKE YA ONE OF US! WE GOT SOMETHING FOR YOU!

A BULLET-PROOF VEST! YA CAN LAUGH AT THE COPPERS! THEY CAN'T HURT YA!
SURE! SEE? WE BOTH WEAR ONE! YOU'LL BE SAFE AS A BUG IN A RUG! HA! HA!

THE RAFFERTY BROTHERS! BOY, WHAT A COMBINATION! WE'LL GET A GANG TOGETHER AND PAINT THE TOWN RED!

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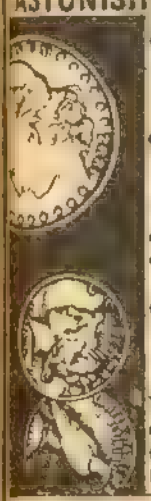

- Lincoln was elected in 1860.
- Kennedy was elected in 1960
- Both Presidents were slain on a Friday.
- There are seven letters in each name.
- Lincoln's secretary Kennedy warned him not to go to the theatre.
- Kennedy's secretary Lincoln warned him not to go to Dallas.
- Both their successors were named Johnson.
- Andrew Johnson born 1808.
- Lyndon Johnson born 1908.
- Booth shot Lincoln in a theatre and hid in a warehouse.
- Oswald shot Kennedy from a warehouse and hid in a theatre

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GOOD NIGHT, TED, THE DANCE WAS FUN!
LET'S PUSH DIS LITTLE GUY AROUND!
GEE, HONEY, KUNG FU IS WONDERFUL TO KNOW!
YES, AND IT'S EASY TO LEARN FAST!!

I'll give you the secret power of CHINESE

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KUNG FU is based on a simple yet lethally effective principle that does not require you to match strength with your opponents. What you do is harness the enormous natural power of your own movements to take advantage of these fundamental laws of natural movement. Add to your rhythm the very movement against you . . . so that all forces are added together and unleashed against your opponent. This is KUNG FU—a force so simple yet so devastating that its techniques have stunned the world

KUNG FU IS BETTER THAN ALL OTHER FORMS OF SELF DEFENSE

KUNG FU is better than all other forms of self defense! Its secret lies in its simplicity and in its ability to overcome an attacker WITHOUT INTRICATE BODY CONTACT. With KUNG FU's "flick-of-the-wrist" technique, YOU CAN WIN . . . EVEN IF YOUR OPPONENT IS BIGGER AND STRONGER THAN YOU. You can win if your attacker surprises you. And more—KUNG FU means deadly, often crippling self defense where every part of your body is a fearful weapon. Your feet, your hands, your elbows, your fingers become lethal weapons WITHOUT REQUIRING SUPER MUSCLE-POWER OR BRUTE FORCE. And you can do all this without years of training, special exercises, and especially hundreds of dollars in cost

*We do not claim that physically handicapped or other disadvantaged persons can perform these feats. Nor are these techniques claimed to be effective against anyone armed with a loaded gun

WHAT KUNG FU WILL MEAN TO YOU

With so many crimes of violence about us you could be in danger—anytime—of being hurt or worse humiliated! BUT NOW YOU CAN DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT. You can protect yourself, your family and your property with deadly effeciency in mere seconds. Yes, and you can do it without years of training, hundreds of dollars in cost, and without long, painful practice. Regardless of size, strength or build you can beat the bullies and better the odds. Thanks to KUNG FU you need never be afraid again. You too can learn to overcome the fear of being shamed. You too can be the one that gives the beating! You too can control threatening, dangerous situations.

WHY KUNG FU MAKES ALL THIS POSSIBLE

Other forms of self defense like Judo or Karate require strength, speed, etc . . . and endless practice. NOT SO WITH KUNG FU! Technique and form aren't important. DEFENSE IS! KUNG FU is designed to help you defend yourself in most situations* with an absolute minimum in effort and a maximum in protection

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The SECRETS OF KUNG FU are fully revealed in one amazing "how to" book. The course comes complete and there's nothing else to learn or buy. You don't need any special apparatus or practice dummies. And once you master the SECRETS OF KUNG FU you can forget about other systems and other methods. Now, in the privacy of your own home, you can learn the deadliest fighting secrets of all time at your very own pace! In just minutes you can find out how to deliver a crippling blow that leaves your opponent powerless . . . in seconds you learn how to destroy your attacker's ability to fight . . . and much, much more. The fully revealed SECRETS OF KUNG FU are so sensational that we make you this UNCONDITIONAL GUARANTEE: You must be fully satisfied or it costs you nothing.

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Rush me the complete course of SECRETS OF KUNG FU. You guarantee me complete satisfaction . . . or I'll return the course at any time I wish for a refund of my purchase price and there will be no questions asked. I promise in return to use the deadly knowledge of KUNG FU for defense only and that I will never use its secrets as an aggressor ever.

I enclosed $5 in ☐Cash ☐Check ☐Money Order (please add 50 cents additional to cover postage and handling). SORRY NO COD'S

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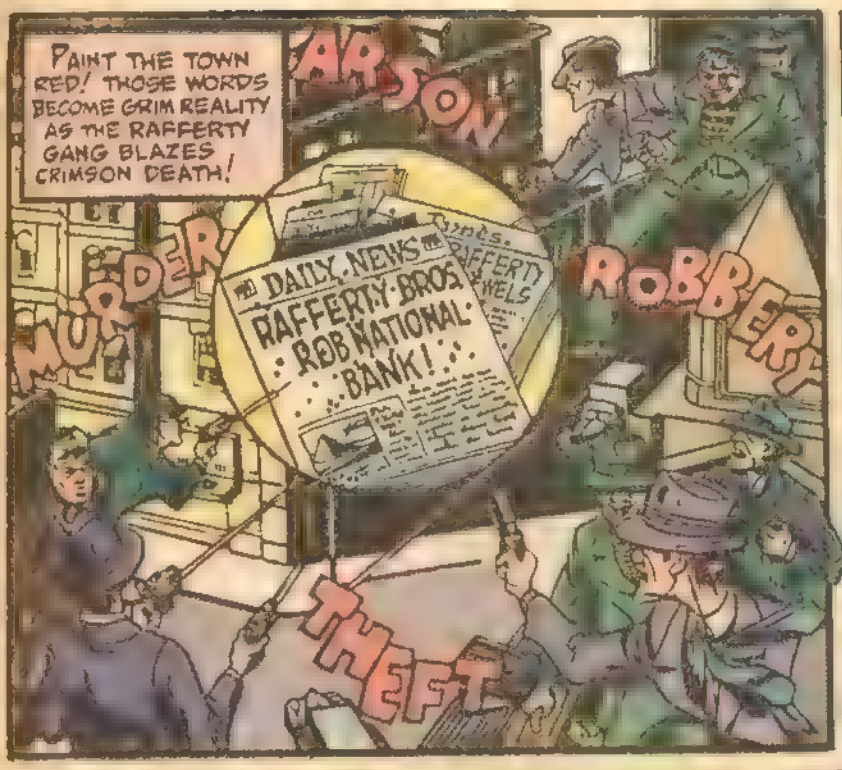
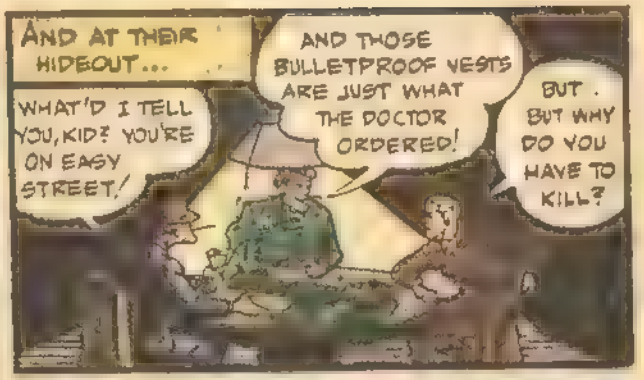
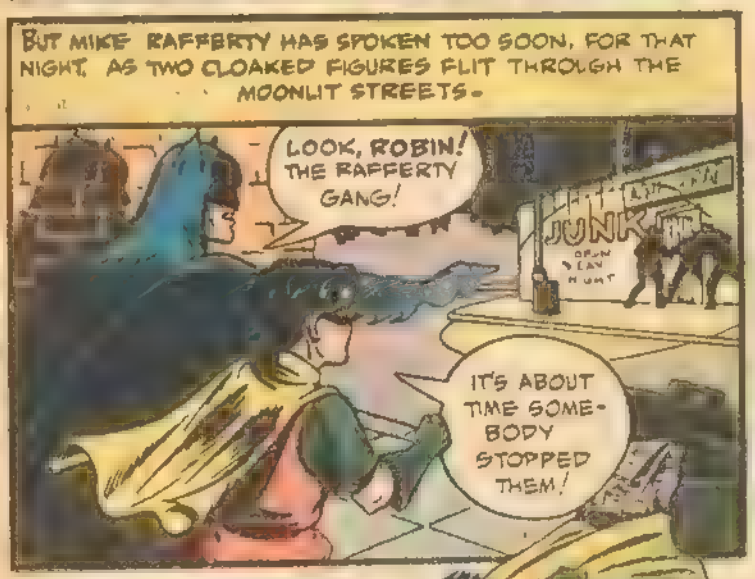
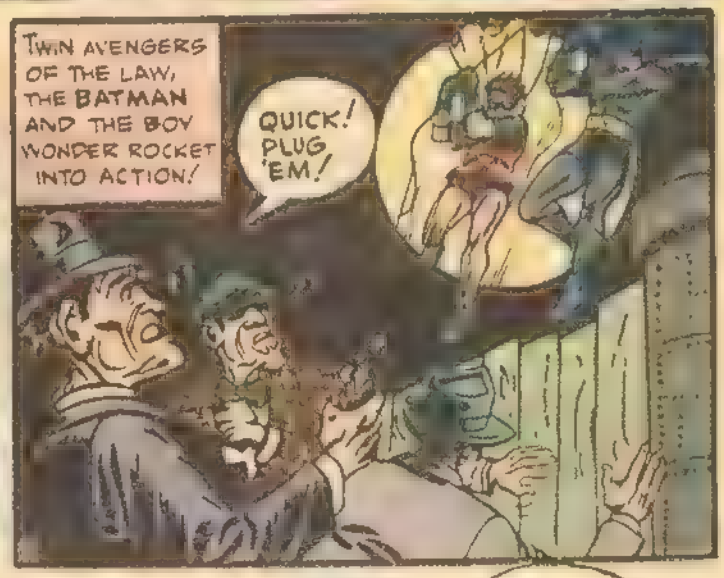
BROTHERS IN CRIME




AND AT THEIR HIDEOUT...
WHAT'D I TELL YOU, KID? YOU'RE ON EASY STREET!
AND THOSE BULLETPROOF VESTS ARE JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED!
BUT . BUT WHY DO YOU HAVE TO KILL?


BUT MIKE RAFFERTY HAS SPOKEN TOO SOON, FOR THAT NIGHT, AS TWO CLOAKED FIGURES FLIT THROUGH THE MOONLIT STREETS-
LOOK, ROBIN! THE RAFFERTY GANG!
JUNK
IT'S ABOUT TIME SOMEBODY STOPPED THEM!



WHINING BULLETS FLASH DANGEROUSLY CLOSE... AS THE DRONE OF A NEARBY ELECTRO-MAGNETIC CRANE SINGS ON, OBLIVIOUS!...
WHEW! THEY SURE DON'T LIKE US!
LOOKS AS THOUGH WE NEED SOME AMMUNITION OF OUR OWN, ROBIN!
BLAST 'EM! DON'T LET THEM GET AWAY!
THIS IS A TEST OF OUR METTLE, EH, ROBIN?
I'LL STEEL MYSELF TO THAT ONE!
YI
OOOOW
COME ON, PAL! LET'S TAKE 'EM NOW!
YIPPEE!
HA-HA-HA!
OUCH! THIS GUY'S CHEST MUST BE MADE OF IRON!
CLANK
HOW'S YOUR JAW, THOUGH?
AND AGAIN THE ELECTRO-MAGNETIC CRANE SWINGS OUT FOR ANOTHER LOAD OF SCRAP IRON!
YOU'RE WIDE OPEN FOR A LEFT, FELLAHS!
YOU LEFT YOURSELF WIDE OPEN, BATMAN!
6

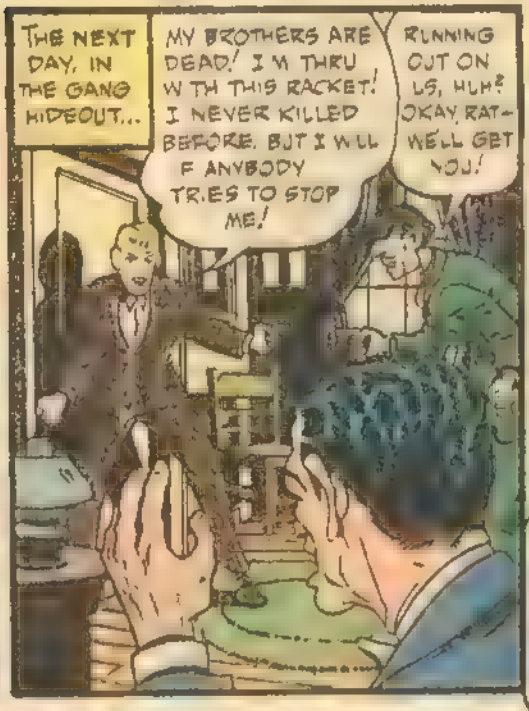
A PERILOUS MOMENT AND JUST AS STEVE RAFFERTY IS ABOUT TO SQUEEZE THE TRIGGER, THE CRANE DIPS DOWN AND.
HELP
HEY, LOOK AT STEVE!
HE'S MAGNETIZED! THE ELECTRO-MAGNETIC CRANE WON'T LET GO OF HIS METAL VEST. HE'LL BE DROPPED TO HIS DEATH IF THAT OPERATOR CUTS OFF THE CURRENT! I'VE GOT TO SAVE HIM, EVEN IF HE'S A KILLER!
BUT A TREACHEROUS BLOW FROM BEHIND FELLS THE GALLANT DARK KNIGHT!
GOT YOU!
POW
THE CRANE SWINGS OUT...
YEEEOW
.. AND RELEASES ITS LOAD IN THE FREIGHT CAR AND THUS, IRONICALLY, THE GANG LEADER'S OWN HENCHMAN DOOMS HIM!
'SAFE AS A BUG IN A RUG!' VAIN BOAST... FOR STEVE RAFFERTY'S BULLETPROOF VEST HAS BROUGHT HIM DEATH!
7
MEANWHILE, ROBIN SPRINGS TO THE RESCUE OF HIS DAZED COMPANION...
YOUR AIM IN LIFE IS TOO LOW, RAT!
SUDDENLY, THE SHRILL BLAST OF A WHISTLE
THE COPS! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
EEEEEEEEEEE

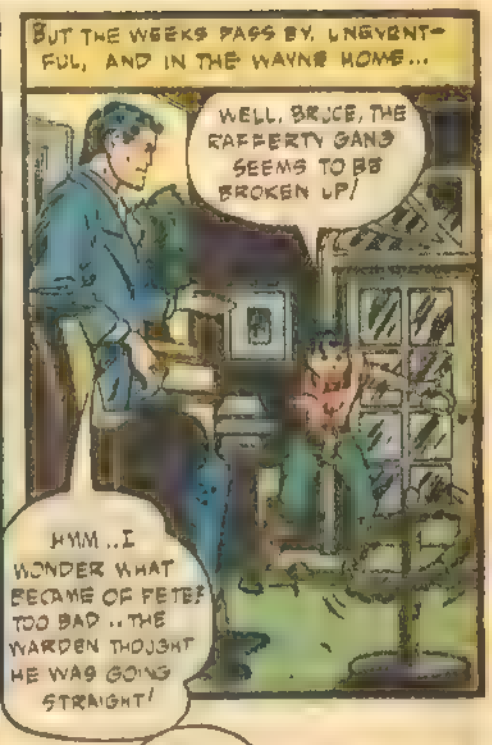
SO THEY GOT AWAY! WELL, WE BROKE UP THEIR PLANS, ANYHOW!
AND ONE OF THEM WON'T DO ANY MORE PLANNING, EITHER, STEVE RAFFERTY!
Later...
THE POLICE FOUND THIS CLIPPING OF THE YACHT CLUB AFFAIR IN STEVE RAFFERTY'S POCKET! SAY...THAT'S TONIGHT!
WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR? LET'S GO!
YACHT CLUB CENTENNIAL DANCE
MILES AWAY, AT THE EXCLUSIVE YACHT CLUB, FAMOUS SOCIALITES ADMIRE THE DISPLAY OF VICTORY TROPHIES!
AREN'T THEY GORGEOUS?
AND ALMOST PRICELESS, MY DEAR! SOME OF THEM ARE SOLID GOLD AND OTHERS ARE DIAMOND STUDDED!
SUDDENLY
STICK 'EM UP, GENTS!
OR WE'LL MAKE LEAD SAILORS OUT OF YA!
YOU CAN'T DO THAT- THOSE TROPHIES CAN'T BE DUPLICATED!
WE CAN'T EH?
BUT BEFORE THE GUN-MAD MOBSTER CAN SHOOT...
WHAT'S THE MATTER, PETE? WHY'N'T YA LET ME FEED HIM SLUGS?
AW, I PUT HIM OUTA THE WAY, DIDN'T I?
EVERYTHING'S SET, MIKE! THE BOYS ARE ALL READY!
GOOD! THE BATMAN'S PROBABLY PICKED UP THE BAIT FROM SEARCHING STEVE'S CLOTHES! WE'LL BE WAITING FOR HIM!

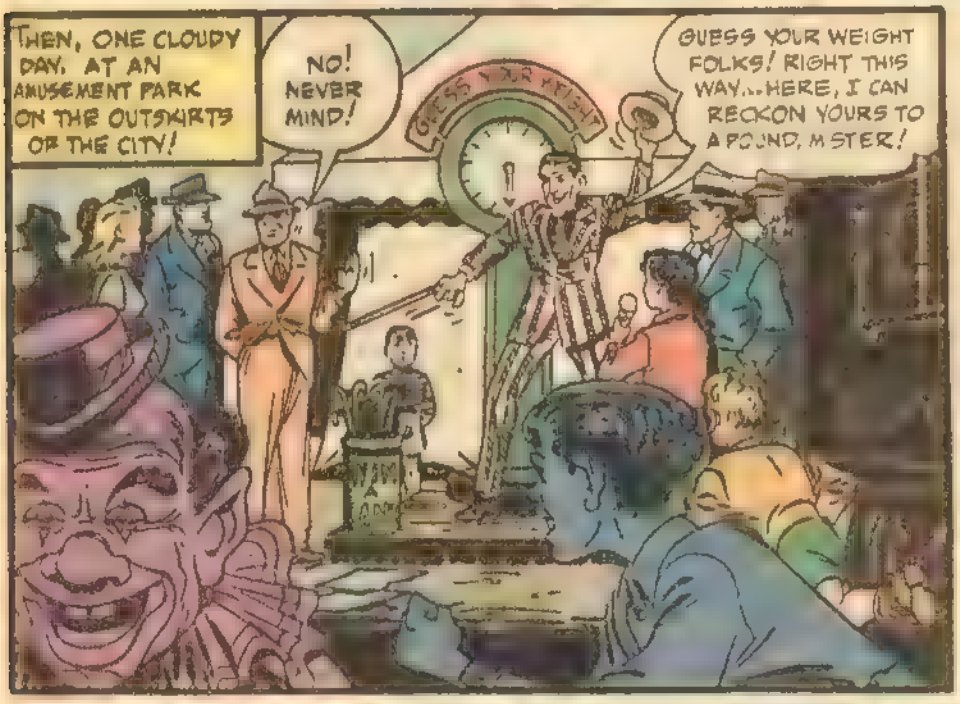
AT THAT MOMENT, THE STREAMLINED BATMOBILE NEARS THE YACHT CLUB AT A MILE-A-MINUTE CLIP...
YACHT CLUB
THEY'RE PULLING UP THE DRAW-BRIDGE!
WE CAN'T STOP! WE'LL HAVE TO GO AHEAD! HOLD TIGHT!
WHO SAID YOU SHOULD NEVER CROSS A BRIDGE BEFORE COMING TO IT?
I DUNNO.. BUT WE'RE DOING IT!
ACCELERATING TO FULL SPEED • THE SUPER-CHARGED CAR SHOOTS FORWARD ACROSS EMPTY SPACE.
YEOW! BACK TO THE CLUB HOUSE! WE'LL FIX 'EM!
..AND MAKES A FOUR-WHEEL LANDING!
LAST STOP!
ALL OUT-FOR ACTION!
AS THE POWER-HOUSE PAIR LEAPS TOWARD THE CLUB VERANDA, A HUGE WIRE MESH NET SWOOPS DOWN FROM ABOVE.
HA! THEY WALKED RIGHT IN-TO IT!
LOOK AT 'EM--THE BATMAN AND ROBIN! SOME CATCH!
HURRY UP! WE'LL TAKE 'EM FOR A NEW KIND OF RIDE!
THEY'LL BE DEAD FISH IN NO TIME!
WELL, I GUESS I'LL MEET THE GANG AT THE HIDEOUT. NO ONE COULD SAVE BATMAN AND ROBIN NOW. NOT EVEN ME!
9
NOTHING IN MY UTILITY BELT IS SHARP ENOUGH TO CUT THIS WIRE! EXCEPT.. MAYBE...
THERE'S NO WAY OF ESCAPE! WE'LL DROWN!
THE DROWNING BATMAN CLUTCHES AT A LAST STRAW!
ONLY ONE CHANCE... I'LL BURN A HOLE THROUGH THE NET!
WHAT IS THE BATMAN THINKING OF? BURN A HOLE WHILE UNDER WATER?... IS IT POSSIBLE?

WITH A TINY OXY-ACETYLENE TORCH, THE BATMAN SHOOTS A STREAM OF TERRIFIC HEAT AGAINST THE WIRE NET!
LUCKY I REMEMBERED THAT UNDER-SEA DIVERS USE THESE IN SALVAGING WRECKED SHIPS!
GEE!
Moments Later..
WHEW! FRESH AIR! BOY, THAT TORCH BURNED RIGHT THROUGH WATER
SILENTLY, THE DYNAMIC DUO INCHES ALONG TOWARD THE REAR OF THE BOAT!..
BOP
BAM
AND EXPLODES INTO ACTION!
THE LOOSE WHEEL OF THE BOAT SPINS FREE AND
LOOK OUT! WE'RE GOING OVER!
UGH THAT'S THE SECOND DUCKING TODAY!
HELP.. GLUB, HELP!
WHAT'S THAT? SOMEBODY IS DROWNING!
BATMAN IS RIGHT! ALONE IN THE DARK, MIKE RAFFERTY
MY VEST...GLUB... ITS WEIGHING ME DOWN - HELP... AGH!
HEY MIKE'S DROWNED!
HIS VEST MAY HAVE BEEN BULLETPROOF - BUT IT WASN'T WATER-PROOF! IF HE HADN'T BEEN WEARING IT, HE MIGHT HAVE SAVED HIMSELF!
AND A SECOND BROTHER MEETS DOOM BECAUSE OF A BULLETPROOF VEST!

Later..
THIS IS YOUR UNLUCKY NIGHT, CHUMPS!
THE OTHER BOAT WITH PETE WENT FREE, THOUGH! WE'VE GOT MORE FISHING TO DO, YET!


THE NEXT DAY, IN THE GANG HIDEOUT...
MY BROTHERS ARE DEAD! I'M THRU WITH THIS RACKET! I NEVER KILLED BEFORE, BUT I WILL IF ANYBODY TRIES TO STOP ME!
RUNNING OUT ON US, HUH? OKAY, RAT—WE'LL GET YOU!


BUT THE WEEKS PASS BY, UNEVENTFUL, AND IN THE WAYNE HOME...
WELL, BRUCE, THE RAFFERTY GANG SEEMS TO BE BROKEN UP!
HMM..I WONDER WHAT BECAME OF PETE? TOO BAD..THE WARDEN THOUGHT HE WAS GOING STRAIGHT!

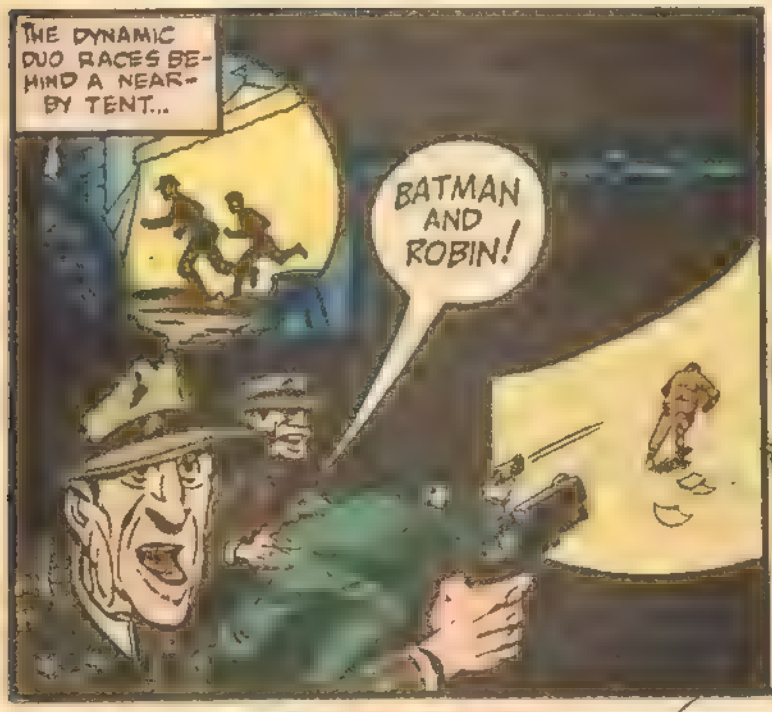

THEN, ONE CLOUDY DAY, AT AN AMUSEMENT PARK ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY!
NO! NEVER MIND!
GUESS YOUR WEIGHT FOLKS! RIGHT THIS WAY...HERE, I CAN RECKON YOURS TO A POUND, MISTER!
GUESS YOUR WEIGHT

AW. COME ON! BE A SPORT!
OKAY, OKAY!

THE WEIGHT-GUESSER RECEIVES AN AMAZING SHOCK...
HUH! I'M TWENTY POUNDS OFF! I SAID 175! I MUST BE SLIPPING! SAY...

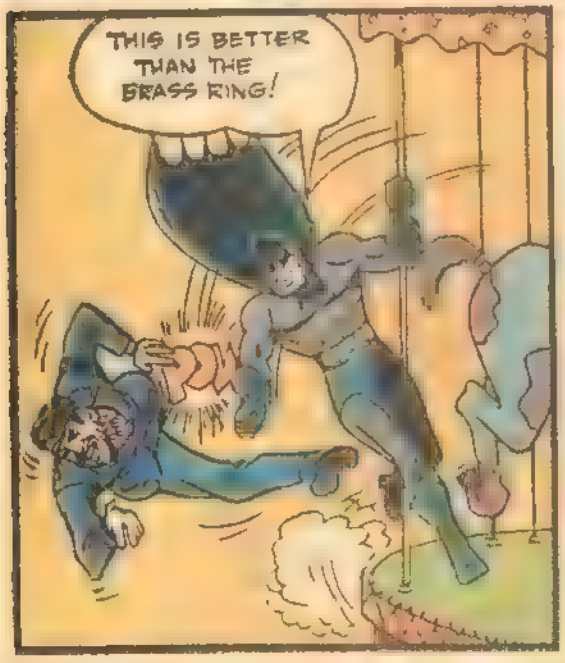
YOU MUST BE WEARING...HEY, WHAT'S THAT? SOMETHING HARD, LIKE IRON! I THOUGHT SO!
GOTTA GET OUT OF HERE. SOMEBODY WILL RECOGNIZE ME!

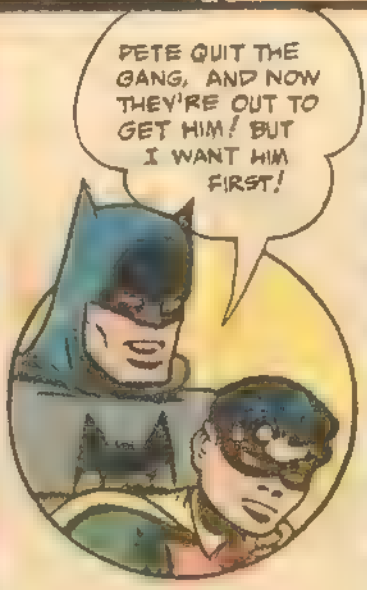
I THOUGHT THAT WAS PETE BEHIND THEM BLINKERS.. HE'S WEARING HIS IRON VEST!
LET'S GET, HM!
LOOK, DICK... PETE RAFFERTY!

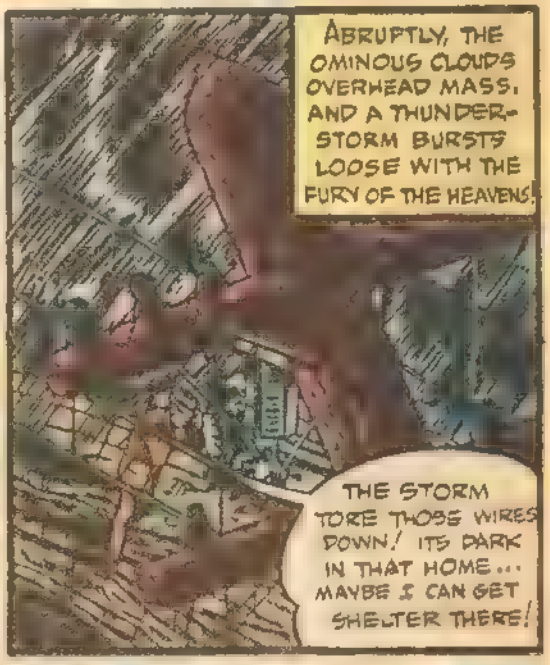

THE DYNAMIC DUO RACES BEHIND A NEARBY TENT...
BATMAN AND ROBIN!

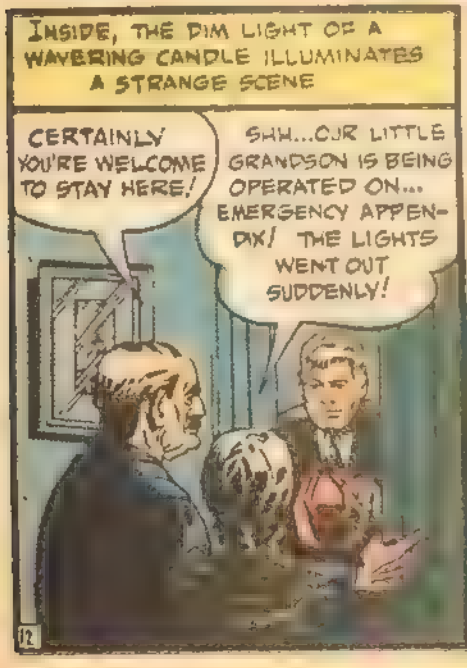
HERE'S WHERE WE START TRAVELING IN BETTER CIRCLES!

THE MUSIC GOES 'ROUND AND 'ROUND, AND YOU GO OUT HERE!
TOK
TOK


THIS IS BETTER THAN THE BRASS RING!


PETE QUIT THE GANG, AND NOW THEY'RE OUT TO GET HIM! BUT I WANT HIM FIRST!


ABRUPTLY, THE OMINOUS CLOUDS OVERHEAD MASS, AND A THUNDERSTORM BURSTS LOOSE WITH THE FURY OF THE HEAVENS!
THE STORM TORE THOSE WIRES DOWN! ITS DARK IN THAT HOME... MAYBE I CAN GET SHELTER THERE!

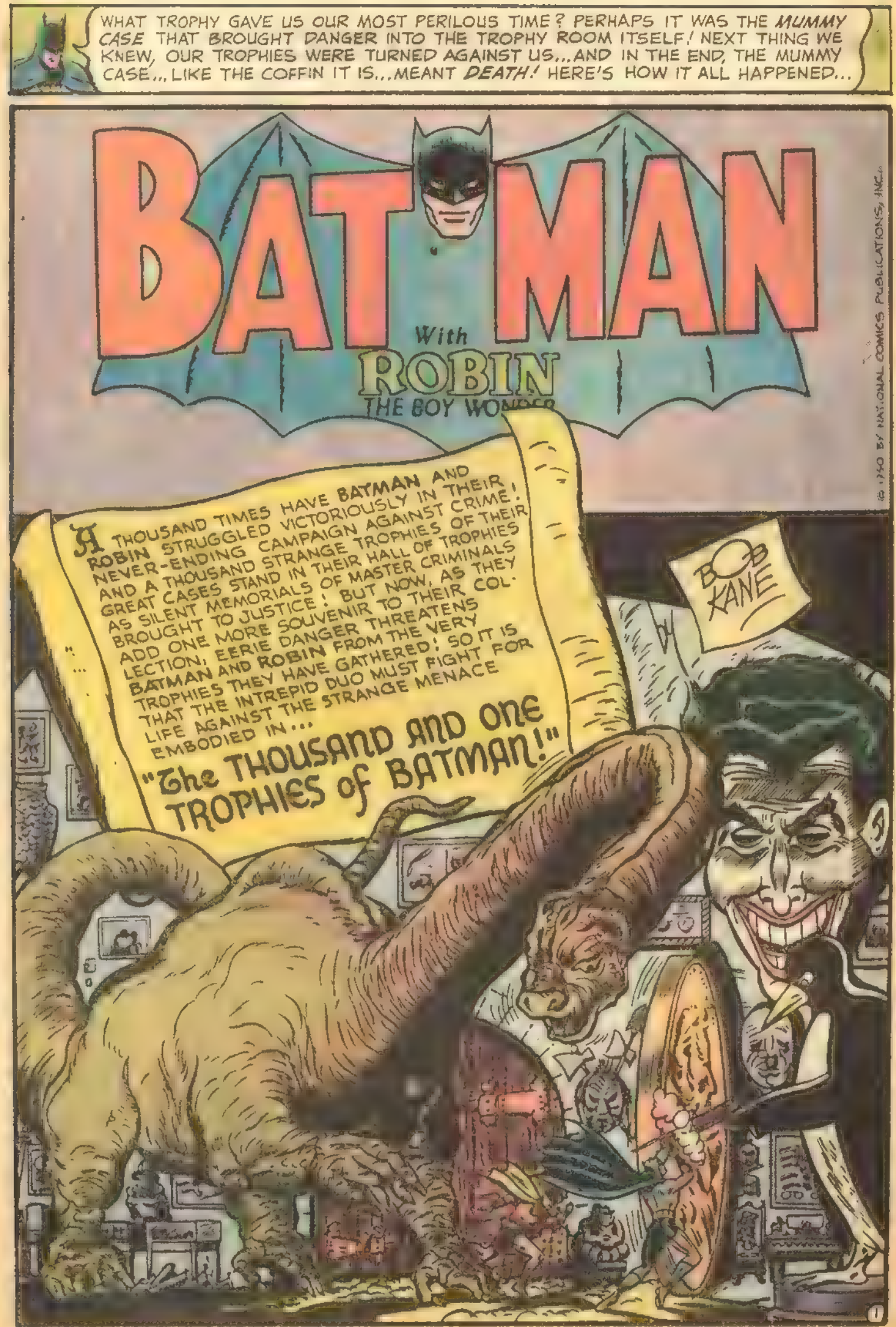

INSIDE, THE DIM LIGHT OF A WAVERING CANDLE ILLUMINATES A STRANGE SCENE
CERTAINLY YOU'RE WELCOME TO STAY HERE!
SHH...OUR LITTLE GRANDSON IS BEING OPERATED ON... EMERGENCY APPENDIX! THE LIGHTS WENT OUT SUDDENLY!

HERE'S SOME HOT COFFEE, MISTER. YOU MUST BE COLD!
GEE, THANKS, MA'AM!
WHY DID THE LIGHTS GO OUT? THE DOCTOR SAYS CANDLE LIGHT IS DANGEROUS. HE NEEDS STEADY ELECTRIC LIGHT TO PERFORM THE OPERATION!

GOSH! I WISH I COULD HELP! THESE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SWELL TO ME. RIGHT IN THE MIDST OF THEIR OWN TROUBLES, SAY.. I CAN DO SOMETHING!

BROTHERS IN CRIME

MOMENTS LATER, PETE SLIPS OUTSIDE INTO THE LASHING RAIN, REMOVES HIS BULLETPROOF VEST...
THE WIRES.. THEY'RE TOO FAR APART FOR ME TO CONNECT THEM...BUT IF I CAN TOUCH BOTH ENDS TO MY METAL VEST, IT WILL COMPLETE THE CIRCUIT!
SUDDENLY, A GUN BARKS.
OHHHH...
SO YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD RUN OUT ON THE MOB, EH? WELL, I TOLD YOU I'D GET YOU!
A SECOND LATER, A MANTLED FORM LUNGES AT THE ASSASSIN..
GOT TO KEEP GO'N'.. THOSE WIRES.. DOC NEEDS LIGHT
DIRTY COWARD I OUGHT TO BREAK EVERY BONE IN YOUR BODY!
WAM
... BUT I'LL SETTLE FOR ALL YOUR TEETH!
NICE GOING, KID I'LL GET YOU INSIDE NOW
I GUESS I MADE IT... BATMAN! THE LIGHTS ARE ON...BUT IT'S LIGHTS OUT FOR ME!
Later, INSIDE THE HOUSE...
I GUESS IT WASN'T IN THE CARDS.. FOR ME TO GO STRAIGHT...SO LONG, BATMAN!.. UGH..
THE OPERATION WAS A SUCCESS. THANKS TO THAT POOR FELLOW!
AND NOW WE RETURN TO THE HALL OF TROPHIES IN 1942...
AND SO ROBIN, BY TAKING OFF HIS BULLETPROOF VEST FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME PETE SAVED THE BOY'S LIFE. BUT HE LOST HIS OWN!
YES, BATMAN, TROPHY NO. 41, A LIFE-SAVING BULLETPROOF VEST THAT KILLED THE THREE RAFFERTY BROTHERS!
the End


WHAT TROPHY GAVE US OUR MOST PERILOUS TIME? PERHAPS IT WAS THE MUMMY CASE THAT BROUGHT DANGER INTO THE TROPHY ROOM ITSELF! NEXT THING WE KNEW, OUR TROPHIES WERE TURNED AGAINST US...AND IN THE END, THE MUMMY CASE... LIKE THE COFFIN IT IS...MEANT DEATH! HERE'S HOW IT ALL HAPPENED...
BATMAN
With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER
A THOUSAND TIMES HAVE BATMAN AND ROBIN STRUGGLED VICTORIOUSLY IN THEIR NEVER-ENDING CAMPAIGN AGAINST CRIME! AND A THOUSAND STRANGE TROPHIES OF THEIR GREAT CASES STAND IN THEIR HALL OF TROPHIES AS SILENT MEMORIALS OF MASTER CRIMINALS BROUGHT TO JUSTICE! BUT NOW, AS THEY ADD ONE MORE SOUVENIR TO THEIR COLLECTION, EERIE DANGER THREATENS BATMAN AND ROBIN FROM THE VERY TROPHIES THEY HAVE GATHERED! SO IT IS THAT THE INTREPID DUO MUST FIGHT FOR LIFE AGAINST THE STRANGE MENACE EMBODIED IN...
"The THOUSAND AND ONE TROPHIES of BATMAN!"
BOB KANE
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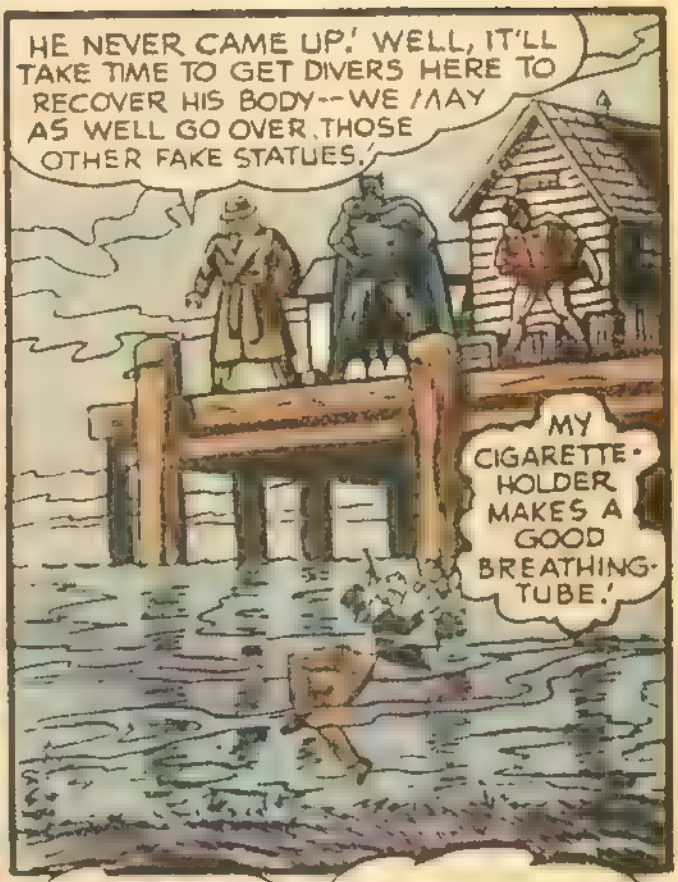
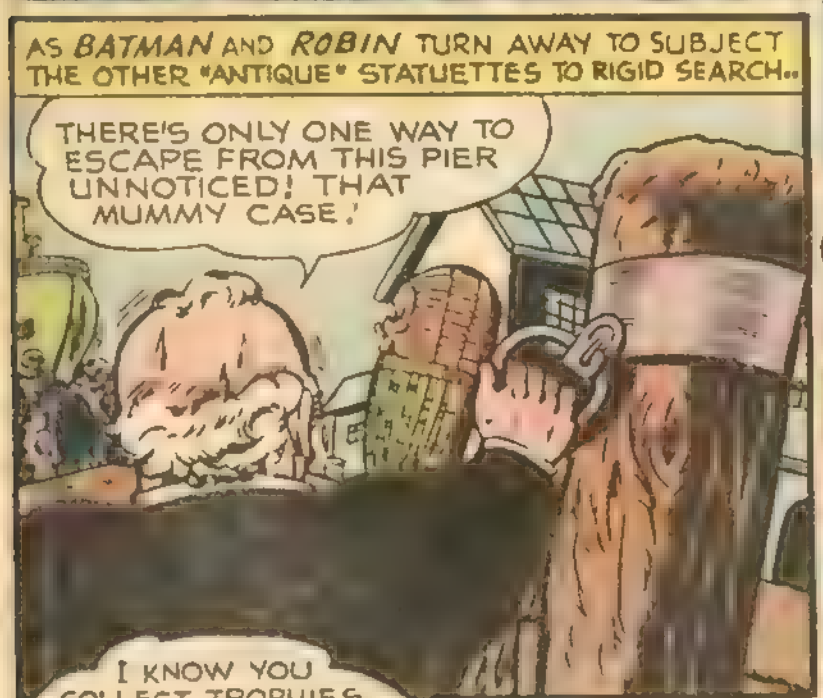
... BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER ENTER THE STRANGEST ROOM OF THEIR SECRET BATCAVE-- THEIR GREAT HALL OF TROPHIES!
IN A SUBTERRANEAN CHAMBER IN GOTHAM CITY, A LOCK CLICKS, A MASSIVE DOOR SWINGS OPEN, AND...
BATMAN! THIS NEW TROPHY IS OUR ONE-THOUSANDTH!
A THOUSAND TROPHIES--AND EVERY ONE REPRESENTS A SOUVENIR FROM AN IMPORTANT CASE!
THE NEW TROPHY IS--A MUSICAL NOTE!
A STRANGE TROPHY--THE MUSICAL NOTE THAT KILLED A MAN BY TRIGGERING A SOUND RELAY DEATH-GADGET!
WHILE WE'RE HERE, WE'D BETTER MAKE SURE OUR OTHER TROPHIES ARE IN GOOD CONDITION!
BONG!
AS THE TWO GREAT CRIME-FIGHTERS BEGIN INSPECTION OF THEIR NUMEROUS TROPHIES, IT RECALLS MEMORIES OF THEIR MOST THRILLING EXPLOITS!
ROBIN, REMEMBER WHEN THE JOKER'S BIG MECHANICAL DICE-CUP ROLLED OUT THESE SUPER DICE IN THE CASE OF "THE GAMBLE WITH DOOM?"
HOW CAN I EVER FORGET IT?
THIS GIANT COIN-TROPHY FROM THE CASE OF "THE PENNY PLUNDERERS" HAS TO BE KEPT POLISHED, OR IT WOULD SOON CORRODE!
IT NEARLY POLISHED US OFF, AT THE TIME!
AND WE'D BETTER LUBRICATE THIS HELICOPTER-AUTO THE "CRIME FROM TOMORROW" HOAXERS USED AGAINST GOTHAM CITY. JUST IN CASE WE MIGHT EVER HAVE TO FLY IT.
2

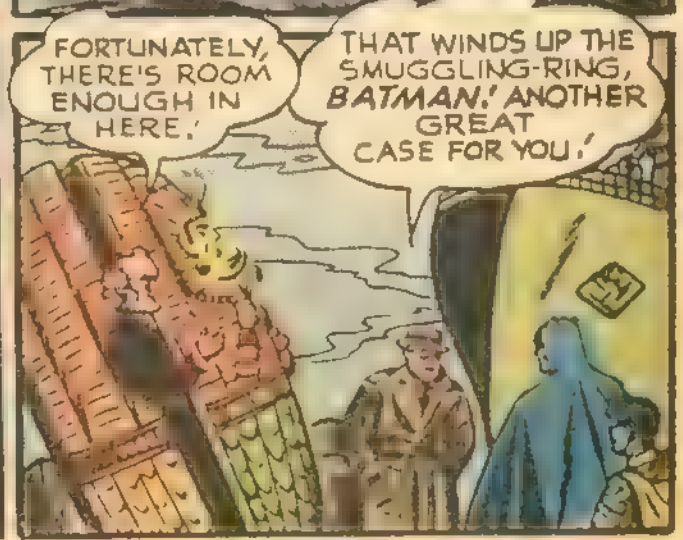
LATER, IN ANOTHER PART OF THE TROPHY HALL....
THE BATTERIES THAT WORK THIS ROBOT DINOSAUR ARE ALL CHARGED NOW!
FOR AN ELECTRICALLY-OPERATED DUMMY, IT SURE LOOKS REAL! REMEMBER WHAT A WILD TIME IT GAVE US ON DINOSAUR ISLAND?
REMEMBER THE CASE OF THE "CHESS CRIMES", ROBIN?
I'M NOT LIKELY TO FORGET!
TROPHIES No. 493 AND NO. 186 ALSO BRING BACK VIVID MEMORIES...
AND THIS HARPOON-CANNON TAKES ME BACK TO OUR SEARCH FOR THE WHITE WHALE, A LONG, LONG TIME AGO!
THIS TANGLING-UMBRELLA WAS ONLY ONE OF THE PENGUIN'S UMBRELLA-TRICKS --BUT IT NEARLY KILLED US!
OUR ONE EMPTY TROPHY CASE-- "THE CASE WITHOUT A CRIME", IN WHICH WE HAD TO SEND BACK THE DOLLAR-BILL TROPHY, TO ESTABLISH A MAN'S INNOCENCE!
A THOUSAND TROPHIES! A THOUSAND CRIMINALS WHO DEFIED THE LAW, AND FAILED! SOME OF THEM ARE BEHIND BARS, THE OTHERS PAID THE SUPREME PENALTY!
IT GIVES YOU A SORT OF GRIM FEELING TO THINK OF IT ALL, DOESN'T IT?
3
SUDDENLY, AN URGENT SUMMONS OVER THE AIR...
I'M GLAD THAT TROPHY NO. 1000 MEANS ANOTHER CASE ENDED, AND A REST FOR US!
LISTEN!
--AND ROBIN! POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON CALLING BATMAN ROBIN!

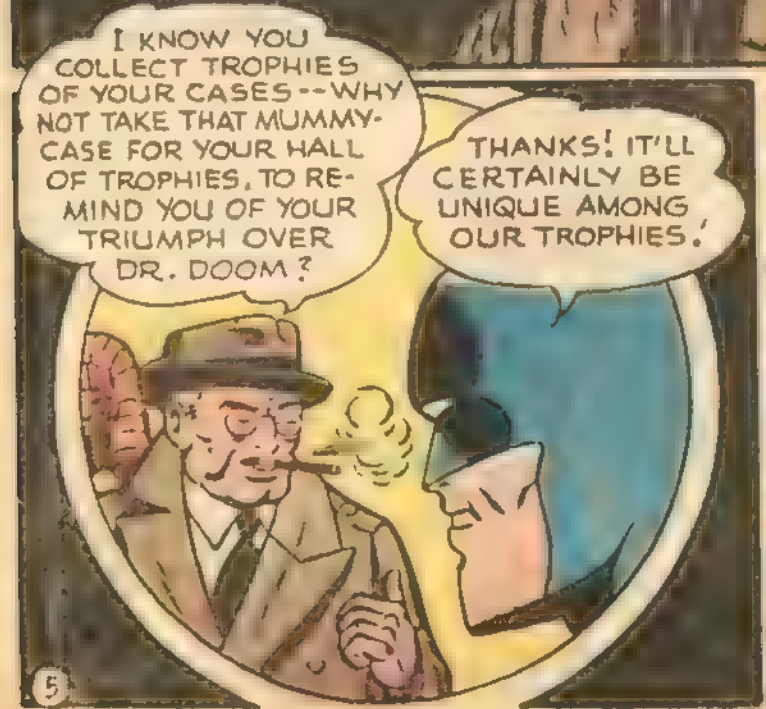
LIKE TWO LITHE JUNGLE-CATS, THE CAPED MAN-HUNTERS STREAK THROUGH ONE OF THE BAT-CAVE TUNNELS...
I LEFT THE BATMOBILE RADIO TUNED TO THE POLICE WAVE, IN CASE THE COMMISSIONER CALLED US.'
GO AHEAD - I'LL LOCK UP THE TROPHY ROOM!
BATMAN, THAT SMUGGLING-LEADER, DR. DOOM, WAS JUST SEEN DOWN AT PIER 16, WHERE THE QUEEN MAUDE IS ARRIVING.'
ALL RIGHT, COMMISSIONER! WE'LL BE THERE IN MINUTES.'
QUICKLY, THE POWERFUL BATMOBILE ROLLS FROM ITS HIDDEN HANGAR IN THE BATCAVE!
WE'VE BEEN AFTER DR. DOOM FOR A LONG TIME, BUT HE'S BEEN TOO CLEVER TO SLIP UP.'
HE'S SMART, BUT THEY ALL SLIP SOME TIME.'
SOON, AS COMMISSIONER GORDON AND THE DYNAMIC DUO CONFRONT THE SUAVE CRIMINAL KNOWN AS "DR. DOOM"...
SMUGGLING? NONSENSE! I'M MERELY IMPORTING SOME EGYPTIAN RELICS ON WHICH I'VE PAID DUTY!
IT'S SO, BATMAN! WE'VE GONE OVER THIS STUFF--JUST AN EMPTY MUMMY-CASE, AND THESE BAKED-CLAY STATUETTES!
HMM... THE GLAZE ON THIS "ANTIQUE" STATUETTE IS PERFECTLY SMOOTH--WHICH MEANS IT WAS FIRED IN A MODERN FURNACE, NOT AN ANCIENT EGYPTIAN KILN!
THEN IT ISN'T AN ANTIQUE AT ALL?
NO, THE STATUETTE WAS MADE AND BAKED HARD TO CONCEAL THE SMUGGLED JEWELS INSIDE IT.' THE SLIP I ALWAYS KNEW HE'D MAKE SOME DAY!
4

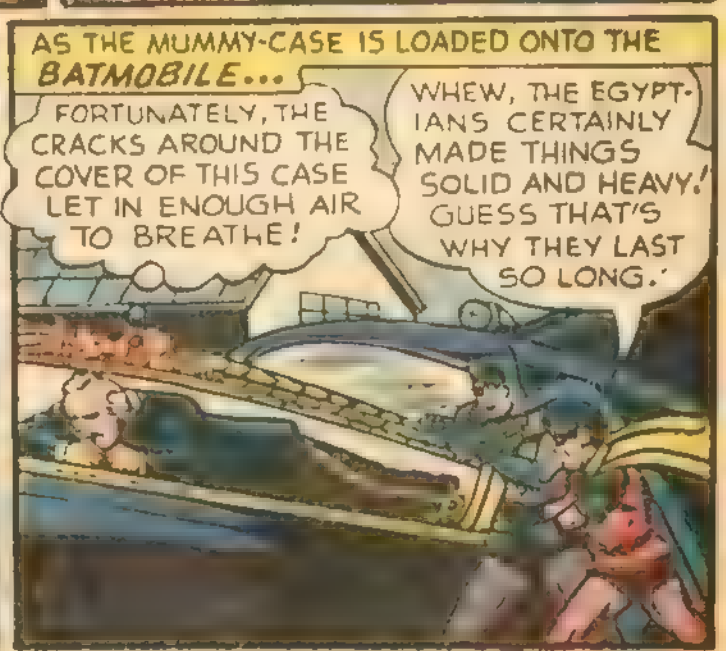
STOP HIM!
I PREFER DEATH TO PRISON.'


HE NEVER CAME UP! WELL, IT'LL TAKE TIME TO GET DIVERS HERE TO RECOVER HIS BODY--WE MAY AS WELL GO OVER THOSE OTHER FAKE STATUES.'
MY CIGARETTE-HOLDER MAKES A GOOD BREATHING-TUBE.'


AS BATMAN AND ROBIN TURN AWAY TO SUBJECT THE OTHER "ANTIQUE" STATUETTES TO RIGID SEARCH..
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO ESCAPE FROM THIS PIER UNNOTICED! THAT MUMMY CASE!

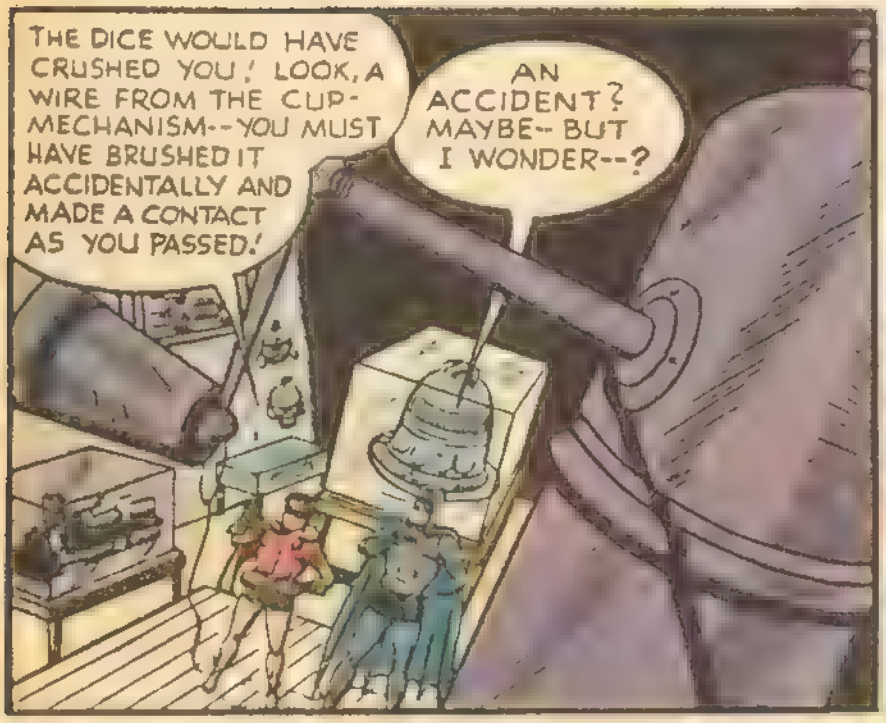

FORTUNATELY, THERE'S ROOM ENOUGH IN HERE.'
THAT WINDS UP THE SMUGGLING-RING, BATMAN.' ANOTHER GREAT CASE FOR YOU.'

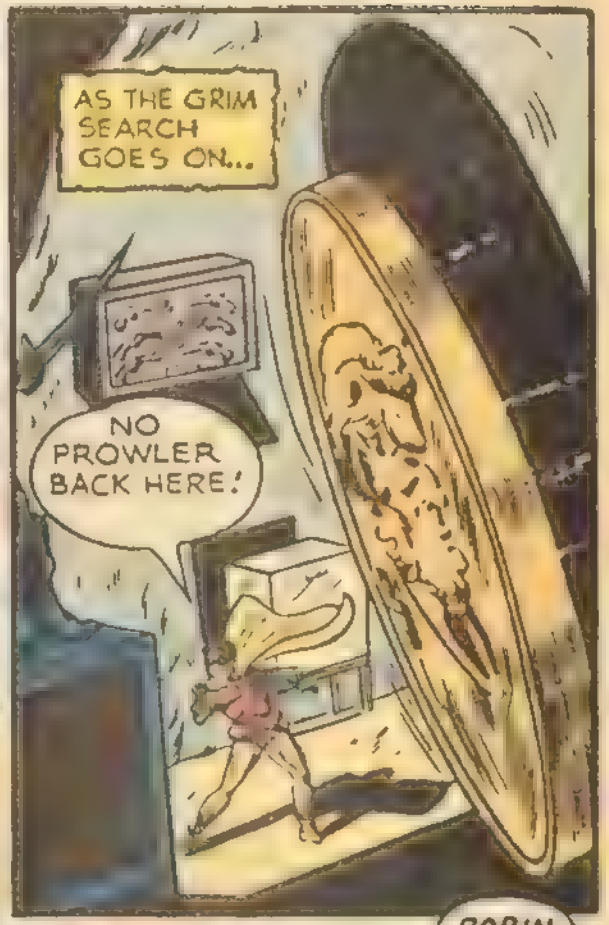

I KNOW YOU COLLECT TROPHIES OF YOUR CASES--WHY NOT TAKE THAT MUMMY-CASE FOR YOUR HALL OF TROPHIES, TO REMIND YOU OF YOUR TRIUMPH OVER DR. DOOM?
THANKS! IT'LL CERTAINLY BE UNIQUE AMONG OUR TROPHIES.'
5


AS THE MUMMY-CASE IS LOADED ONTO THE BATMOBILE...
FORTUNATELY, THE CRACKS AROUND THE COVER OF THIS CASE LET IN ENOUGH AIR TO BREATHE!
WHEW, THE EGYPTIANS CERTAINLY MADE THINGS SOLID AND HEAVY! GUESS THAT'S WHY THEY LAST SO LONG.'

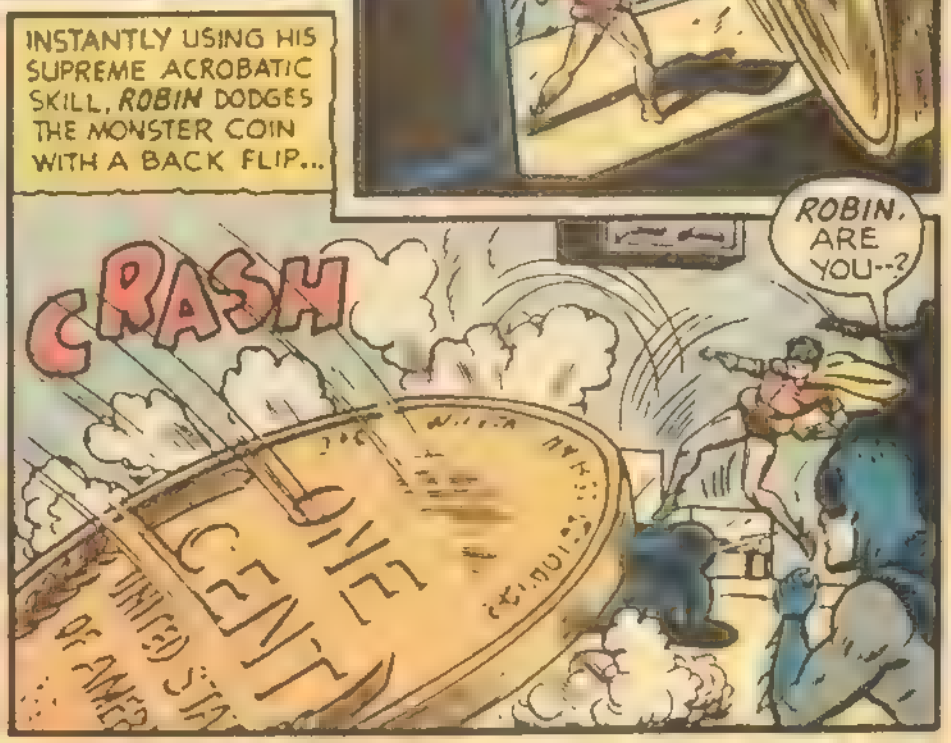
AS THE BATMOBILE ROLLS HOMEWARD, THE DUO IS UNAWARE OF THE DEADLY MENACE THEY ARE CARRYING INTO THE BAT CAVE WITH THEM!
HOME AGAIN, ROBIN --AND THIS TIME WE CAN REALLY RELAX!
IT'S A BEAUTIFUL TWIST OF FATE THAT GIVES ME THIS CHANCE TO REPAY BATMAN FOR RUINING MY SCHEMES! THEY'VE BROUGHT ME RIGHT TO THEIR SECRET BASE!
MINUTES LATER, IN THE HALL OF TROPHIES...
OUR THOUSAND AND FIRST TROPHY!
AND THE MOST ANCIENT OF ALL! BUT COME ON-- IT'LL BE A RELIEF TO GET OUT OF COSTUME!
TROPHY NO 1001
FOR SEVERAL MINUTES AFTER BATMAN AND ROBIN DEPART, BROODING SILENCE REIGNS IN THE HALL OF TROPHIES! THEN A STEALTHY FIGURE EMERGES...
NOW TO EXPLORE THE BAT CAVE AND PLAN MY REVENGE! THEN I CAN TAKE OVER THIS HIDDEN BASE AS AN IDEAL CRIME-HEADQUARTERS!
BUT BATMAN AND ROBIN LEAVE LITTLE TO CHANCE.'
THE DOOR--LOCKED! THEN IF I CAN'T GET OUT OF THIS HALL OF TROPHIES, I'LL HAVE TO SET MY DEATH-TRAP FOR THEM HERE.'
PRESENTLY...
IT'S IRONIC--I'M FIXING THINGS SO THAT THEIR OWN TROPHIES OF THEIR PAST TRIUMPHS WILL DESTROY THEM.'
USING ALL HIS CRIMINAL GENIUS TO RIG THE GREAT TROPHIES...
THIS FINISHES MY LITTLE AMBUSH! NOW TO CALL THE VICTIMS TO THEIR DOOM! SHORT-CIRCUITING THE ELECTRIC PROWLER-ALARM OUGHT TO DO IT.'
6

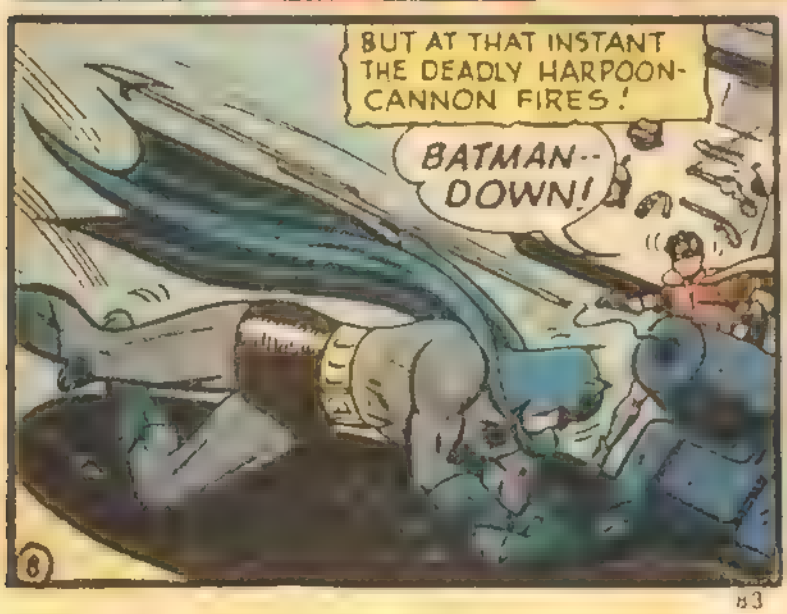
A FEW MINUTES LATER, ABOVE THE HIDDEN BATCAVE, IN THE WAYNE MANSION, BRUCE WAYNE AND YOUNG DICK GRAYSON ARE STARTLED WHEN A SECRET ALARM BUZZES!
THAT'S THE PROWLER-ALARM FOR THE HALL OF TROPHIES! SOMEONE MUST BE DOWN IN THERE!
BUT IT'S LOCKED-- NO ONE COULD GET IN THERE!
BUZZZZ
BUZZZZ
HASTILY SWITCHING TO COSTUME AND HURRYING DOWN THROUGH THE EERIE BATCAVE...
WE'LL HAVE TO TACKLE THIS PROWLER AS BATMAN AND ROBIN, OR OUR IDENTITY WOULD BE KNOWN!
I DON'T GET IT! THE OTHER BAT-CAVE ALARMS DIDN'T SOUND! HOW COULD A PROWLER GET THROUGH ALL OF THEM INTO THE LOCKED HALL OF TROPHIES?
THERE'S NOBODY HERE! PERHAPS THE ALARM SYSTEM WENT HAYWIRE!
AS THEY SEARCH, ROBIN'S KEEN EARS DETECT A SUDDEN LOW, OMINOUS WHIRRING!
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT! WE'LL SEARCH THE WHOLE HALL!
NO SIGN OF ANYONE!
THE MOTOR OF THE MECHANICAL DICE-CUP IS STARTING! THE GIANT DICE-- GOT TO ACT FAST!
WHAT--
THOSE DICE NEARLY ROLLED AN UNLUCKY NUMBER FOR YOU!

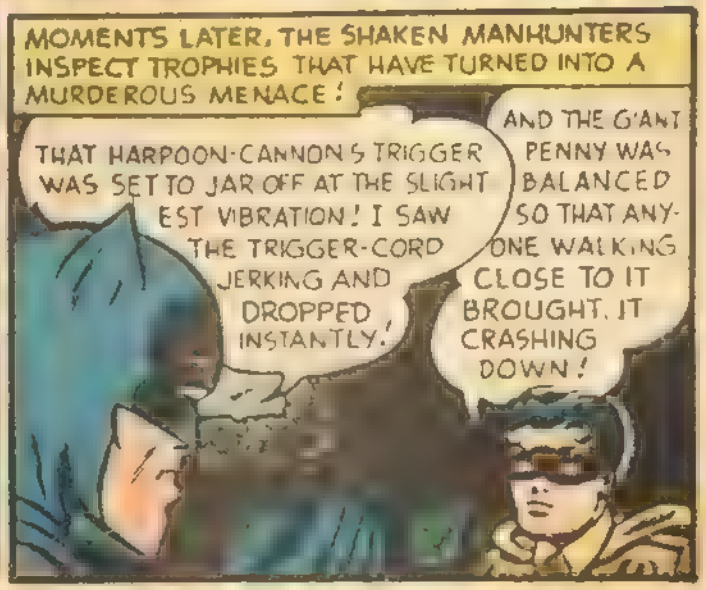

THE DICE WOULD HAVE CRUSHED YOU! LOOK, A WIRE FROM THE CUP-MECHANISM--YOU MUST HAVE BRUSHED IT ACCIDENTALLY AND MADE A CONTACT AS YOU PASSED!
AN ACCIDENT? MAYBE-- BUT I WONDER--?

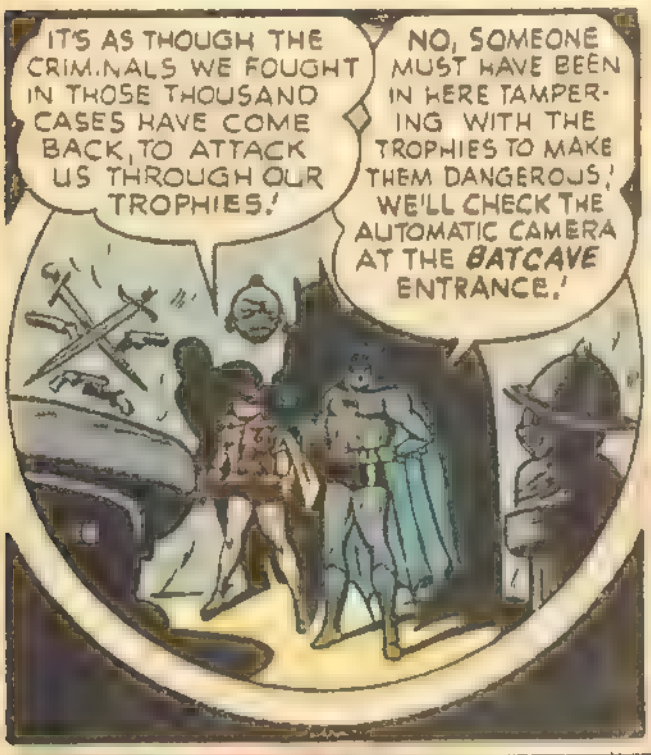

AS THE GRIM SEARCH GOES ON...
NO PROWLER BACK HERE!

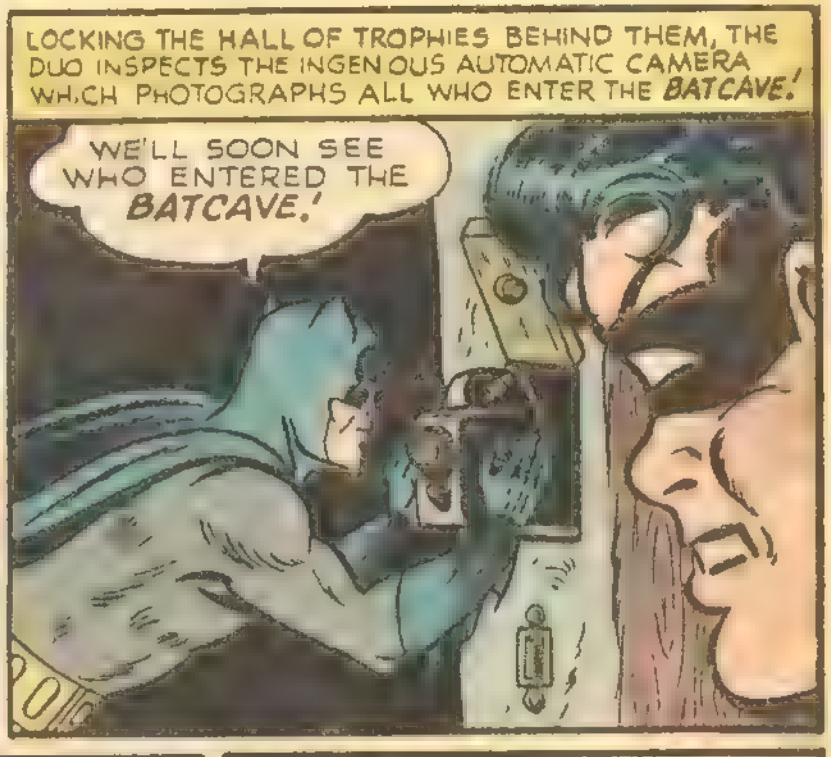
IT'S FALLING ON ME! A BACK-FLIP IS MY ONLY CHANCE!

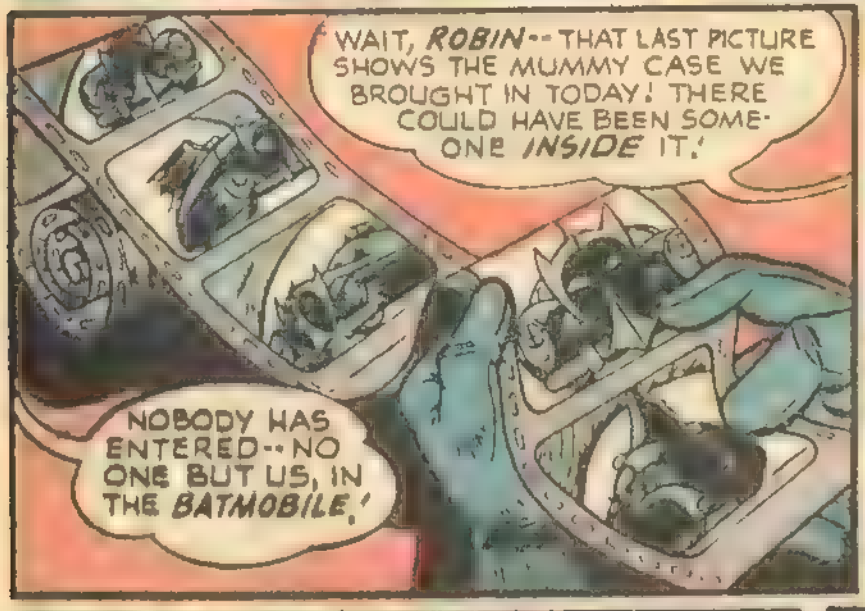

INSTANTLY USING HIS SUPREME ACROBATIC SKILL, ROBIN DODGES THE MONSTER COIN WITH A BACK FLIP...
CRASH
ONE CENT
ROBIN, ARE YOU--?

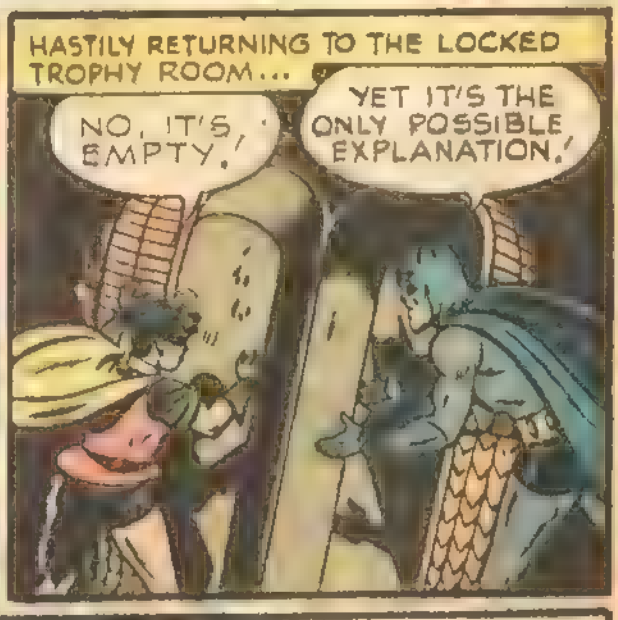

BUT AT THAT INSTANT THE DEADLY HARPOON-CANNON FIRES!
BATMAN-- DOWN!
8

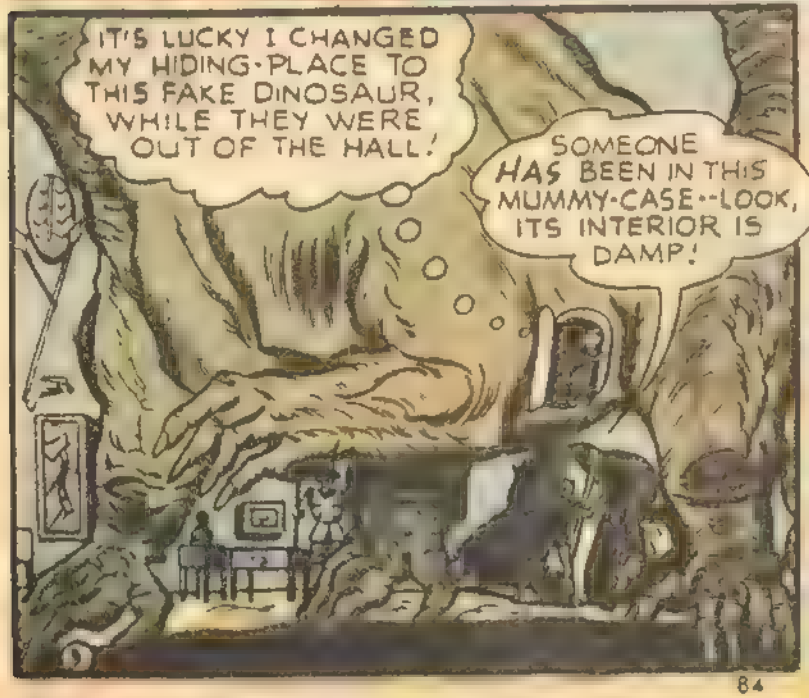

MOMENTS LATER, THE SHAKEN MANHUNTERS INSPECT TROPHIES THAT HAVE TURNED INTO A MURDEROUS MENACE!
THAT HARPOON-CANNON'S TRIGGER WAS SET TO JAR OFF AT THE SLIGHTEST VIBRATION! I SAW THE TRIGGER-CORD JERKING AND DROPPED INSTANTLY!
AND THE GIANT PENNY WAS BALANCED SO THAT ANYONE WALKING CLOSE TO IT BROUGHT IT CRASHING DOWN!

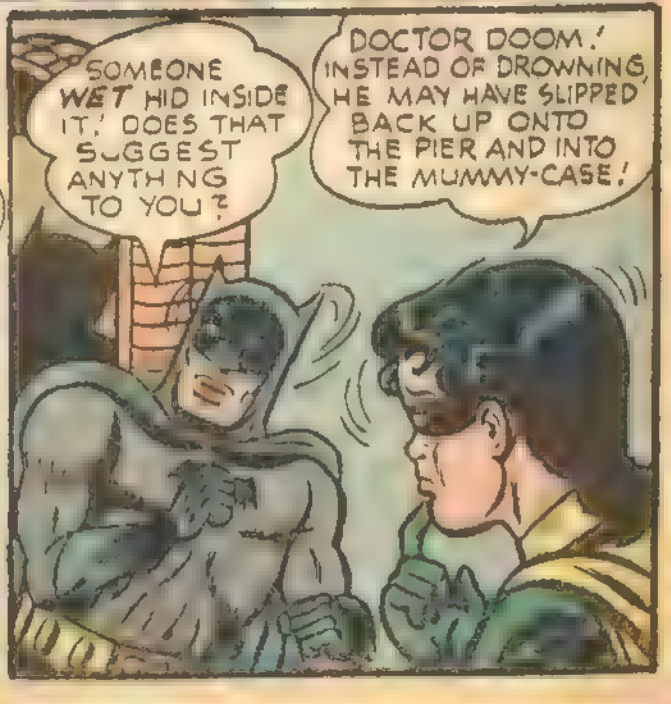

IT'S AS THOUGH THE CRIMINALS WE FOUGHT IN THOSE THOUSAND CASES HAVE COME BACK, TO ATTACK US THROUGH OUR TROPHIES!
NO, SOMEONE MUST HAVE BEEN IN HERE TAMPERING WITH THE TROPHIES TO MAKE THEM DANGEROUS! WE'LL CHECK THE AUTOMATIC CAMERA AT THE BATCAVE ENTRANCE!


LOCKING THE HALL OF TROPHIES BEHIND THEM, THE DUO INSPECTS THE INGENIOUS AUTOMATIC CAMERA WHICH PHOTOGRAPHS ALL WHO ENTER THE BATCAVE!
WE'LL SOON SEE WHO ENTERED THE BATCAVE!


WAIT, ROBIN -- THAT LAST PICTURE SHOWS THE MUMMY CASE WE BROUGHT IN TODAY! THERE COULD HAVE BEEN SOMEONE INSIDE IT!
NOBODY HAS ENTERED -- NO ONE BUT US, IN THE BATMOBILE!


HASTILY RETURNING TO THE LOCKED TROPHY ROOM...
NO, IT'S EMPTY!
YET IT'S THE ONLY POSSIBLE EXPLANATION!


IT'S LUCKY I CHANGED MY HIDING-PLACE TO THIS FAKE DINOSAUR, WHILE THEY WERE OUT OF THE HALL!
SOMEONE HAS BEEN IN THIS MUMMY-CASE -- LOOK, ITS INTERIOR IS DAMP!


SOMEONE WET HID INSIDE IT! DOES THAT SUGGEST ANYTHING TO YOU?
DOCTOR DOOM! INSTEAD OF DROWNING, HE MAY HAVE SLIPPED BACK UP ONTO THE PIER AND INTO THE MUMMY-CASE!

RIGHT! AND THAT MEANS THAT HE'S STILL IN HERE!
AND USING OUR OWN TROPHIES TO TRY TO KILL US!
AS A GRIM AND DEADLY MANHUNT IN THE HALL OF TROPHIES BEGINS..
IT'LL SWEEP THE CHESSMEN ONTO US! JUMP!
LOOK OUT! THE MECHANICAL DINOSAUR'S TAIL IS STARTING TO MOVE!
DOCTOR DOOM IS INSIDE THE DINOSAUR--CONTROLLING IT!
THE PENGUIN'S TANGLE-UMBRELLA SPRUNG OPEN WHEN I HIT IT--I'M CAUGHT --'
AND DR. DOOM'S USING THE ROBOT DINOSAUR NOW TO FINISH HIM! GOT TO STOP IT!'
IF I CAN GET INSIDE AND GET HIM AWAY FROM THE CONTROLS--
NOW TO SHAKE OFF BATMAN AND THEN I'LL FINISH THE BRAT!'
AS BATMAN VAINLY TRIES TO HOLD ON, THE MIGHTY MECHANICAL BEAST REARS AND...

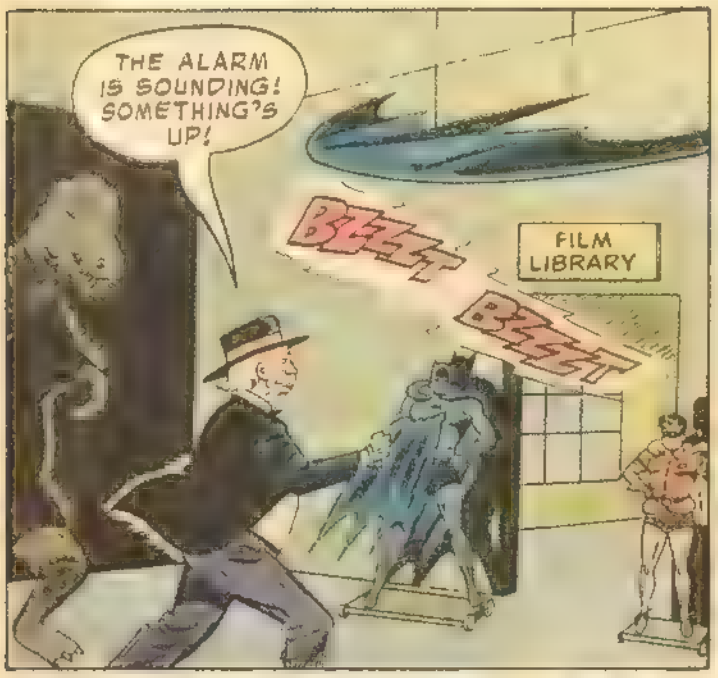
...THEN SEIZES THE BOY WONDER WITH GREAT METAL JAWS TO HURL HIM TO HIS DEATH.'
HOLD ON, ROBIN! THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO STOP THAT THING, NOW.'
I CAN'T GET MY LEGS FREE OF THIS TANGLE-UMBRELLA!
HURTLING INTO DYNAMIC ACTION IS BATMAN, TO STOP ONE TROPHY WITH ANOTHER!
AND THEN, THE MECHANICAL MONSTER LOSES ITS PSEUDO-LIFE AS ITS ELECTRIC "NERVES" ARE SEVERED!
QUICK, ROBIN-- WE'VE HUNTED HIM OUT INTO THE OPEN NOW!
THE THING IS USELESS NOW!
THE ROTOR-BLADES SHOULD CUT THE ELECTRIC WIRES THAT CONTROL THE ROBOT DINOSAUR!
IN A MOMENT, THE TWO CRIME-FIGHTERS FACE A CORNERED FOE!
THE DINOSAUR FAILED, BUT THIS GRENADE-TROPHY WILL FINISH YOU.'
TROPHY No. 44
YOU DON'T DARE THROW IT--YOU'RE LOCKED IN THIS HALL WITH US, AND WOULD GET HURT YOURSELF.'
BUT A PIN IS PULLED, AND THE DEADLY WEAPON HURLED.'
THIS MASSIVE MUMMY-CASE WILL PROTECT ME FROM THE BLAST.'
ROBIN, DOWN!

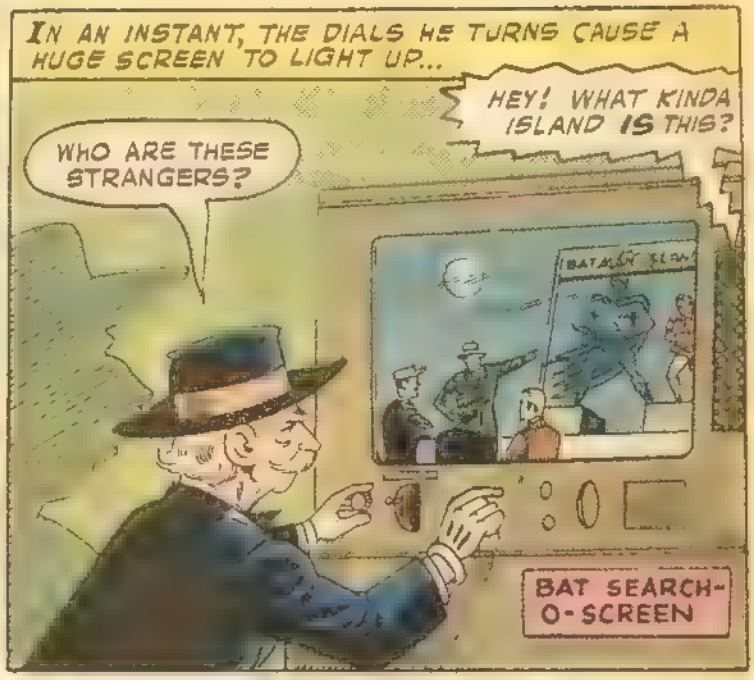
THIS MIDGET MANSION THE PEE-WEE PEOPLE OF TINY TOWN GAVE US AS A SOUVENIR MAKES A GOOD SHIELD.'
BOOM
THE LITTLE HOUSE WAS SO WELL-MADE IT PROTECTED US PERFECTLY FROM THE BLAST.'
AND DR. DOOM WAS INSIDE THE MUMMY-CASE, SO THE BLAST DIDN'T HURT HIM. LET'S HAUL HIM OUT OF THERE AND OFF TO PRISON!
PRESENTLY, AFTER WORKING FURIOUSLY TO PRY OPEN THE JAMMED DOOR...
THE BLAST WEDGED THE DOOR OF THE MUMMY-CASE IN TIGHTLY! WE'LL NEED TOOLS TO OPEN IT NOW.'
I'LL GET A CHISEL.'
IT'S BEEN MINUTES --BUT IT'S GIVING WAY NOW.'
THAT EXPLOSION SURE WEDGED IT IN TIGHTLY.'
SECONDS LATER, THEY BEHOLD A MAN WHO HAS MET AN IRONIC DOOM!
HE DIED OF SUFFOCATION WHEN HIS OWN GRENADE-BLAST WEDGED THE DOOR SO TIGHT THAT NO AIR-CRACKS WERE LEFT.'
HE'S DEAD.'
LATER...
THE WEIRDEST OF ALL OUR TROPHIES, BATMAN.'
YES, THE ONE THAT BROUGHT DEATH INTO OUR HALL OF TROPHIES -- DEATH THAT RECOILED ON ITS PLOTTER!
TROPHY No. 1001
The End

BET YOU FIGURE THE BATCAVE HOLDS JUST ABOUT ALL THE BATMAN AND ROBIN TROPHIES THERE ARE! WELL, YOU'RE WRONG! THERE'S AN EVEN LARGER COLLECTION OF BAT-TROPHIES OWNED BY A MAN NAMED A.K. BARNABY.. SO BIG IT TAKES AN ENTIRE ISLAND TO HOLD IT!
BATMAN WITH ROBIN THE BOY WONDER
IT WAS A FABULOUS ISLAND, INDEED--AND THOUGH MANY HEARD OF IT, NONE EVER SAW ITS UNUSUAL EXHIBITS! THEN, WHEN CROOKS SUDDENLY INVADE IT, BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER, ARE URGENTLY SUMMONED! WHY? SURPRISE FOLLOWS SURPRISE AS THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS SET OUT TO SOLVE...
THE SECRET OF BATMAN ISLAND!
AND HE WILL-- UNLESS I REACH HIM IN TIME!
HA, HA! ROBIN'S DUE FOR A FALL!
BOB KANE
©1958 by NATIONAL COMICS PUBLICATIONS, INC.
LATE AFTERNOON, SHORTLY AFTER A JEWELRY STORE HAS BEEN ROBBED...
THERE ARE THE DIAMOND THIEVES, ROBIN, TRYING TO ESCAPE FROM THE ROOF!
HUH! BATMAN AND ROBIN!
AS POLICE CARS RACE TO THE SCENE...
WHAT EXCITEMENT! BATMAN AND ROBIN BATTLING CROOKS ON A ROOFTOP! THIS IS MY LUCKY DAY!
WHEEEEEE
POLICE

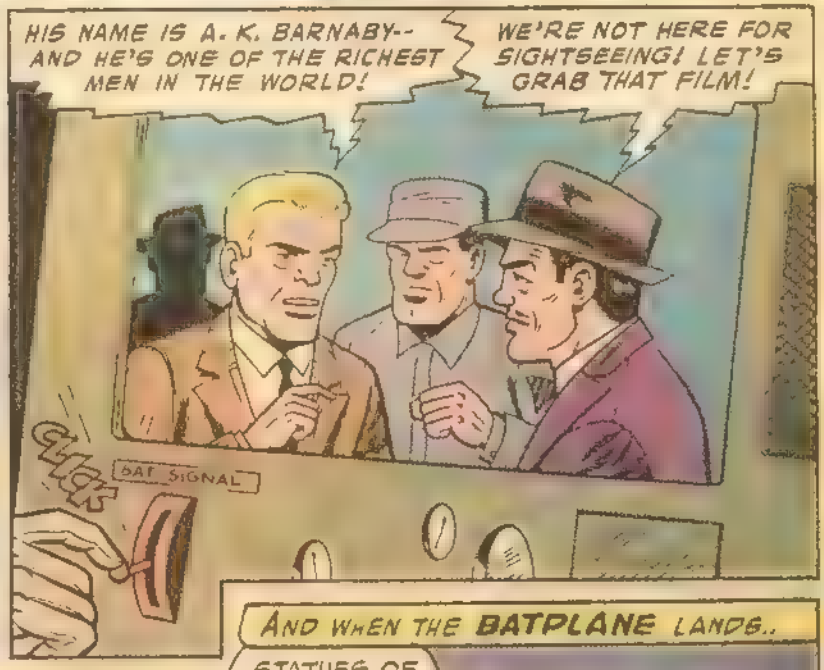
SECRET OF BATMAN ISLAND

AND AS THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS WADE IN, A CAMERA RECORDS THE ACTION...
I THOUGHT I'D GET NOTHING MORE THAN PICTURES OF THE BATMAN MUSEUM WHEN I CAME TO GOTHAM CITY TODAY-- BUT THIS IS TERRIFIC!
WHIRRRR
M LFORD TRUCK CO
SHORTLY...
NOT A SINGLE GEM ON THEM, BATMAN! WE'LL TAKE THEM IN FOR QUESTIONING, BUT IT'LL BE HARD TO CONVICT THEM UNLESS WE CAN FIND THOSE STONES!
HMM...
BOSS! DID YOU SEE THAT GUY TAKING PICTURES? WE'D BETTER GRAB HIS FILM!
NOT HERE! FOLLOW HIM!
LATER, AT THE WATERFRONT...
THERE HE GOES--OUT ACROSS THE BAY!
GET A BOAT, QUICKLY! WE'VE GOT TO CATCH HIM!
BY NIGHTTIME, THE SLEEK CRAFT DOCKS AT A FANTASTIC ISLAND..
AH! BACK ON MY BATMAN ISLAND-- WITH A REAL PRIZE-- MY OWN FILMS OF BATMAN FIGHTING CRIMINALS!
BATMAN ISLAN
I'LL ADD THE PICTURES TO MY BATMAN FILM LIBRARY--THE FINEST IN THE WORLD! BUT THESE ARE THE FIRST TAKEN BY ME, PERSONALLY!
JOKER
PENGUIN
FAT MAN
2

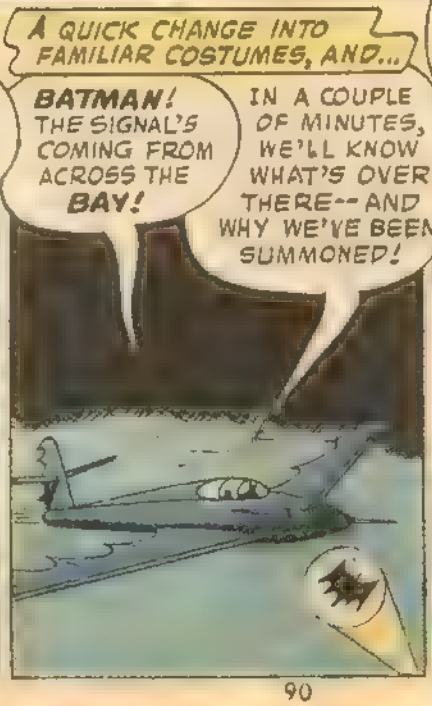

THE ALARM IS SOUNDING! SOMETHING'S UP!
BZZZT
BZZZT
FILM LIBRARY

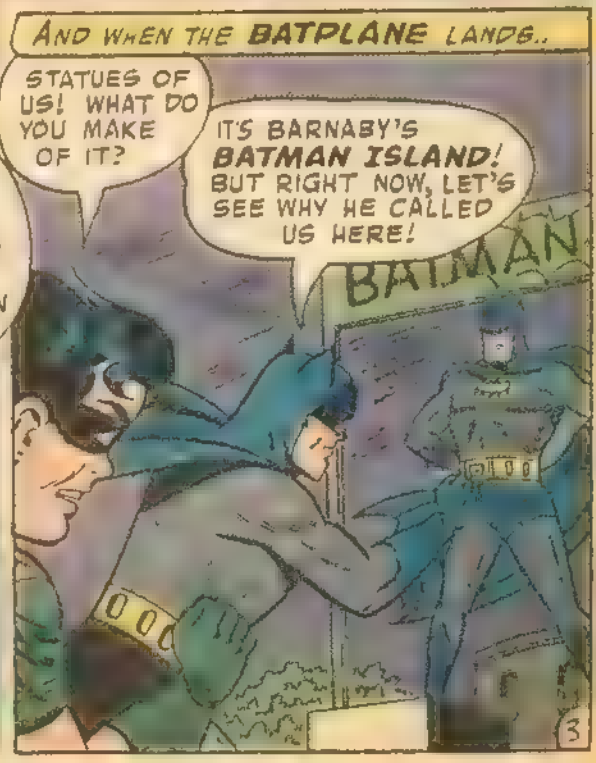

IN AN INSTANT, THE DIALS HE TURNS CAUSE A HUGE SCREEN TO LIGHT UP...
HEY! WHAT KINDA ISLAND IS THIS?
WHO ARE THESE STRANGERS?
BAT SEARCH-O-SCREEN

I'VE HEARD OF IT--BATMAN ISLAND! A RICH BATMAN FAN SPENT A FORTUNE BUILDING IT!


HIS NAME IS A. K. BARNABY--AND HE'S ONE OF THE RICHEST MEN IN THE WORLD!
WE'RE NOT HERE FOR SIGHTSEEING! LET'S GRAB THAT FILM!
CLICK
BAT SIGNAL

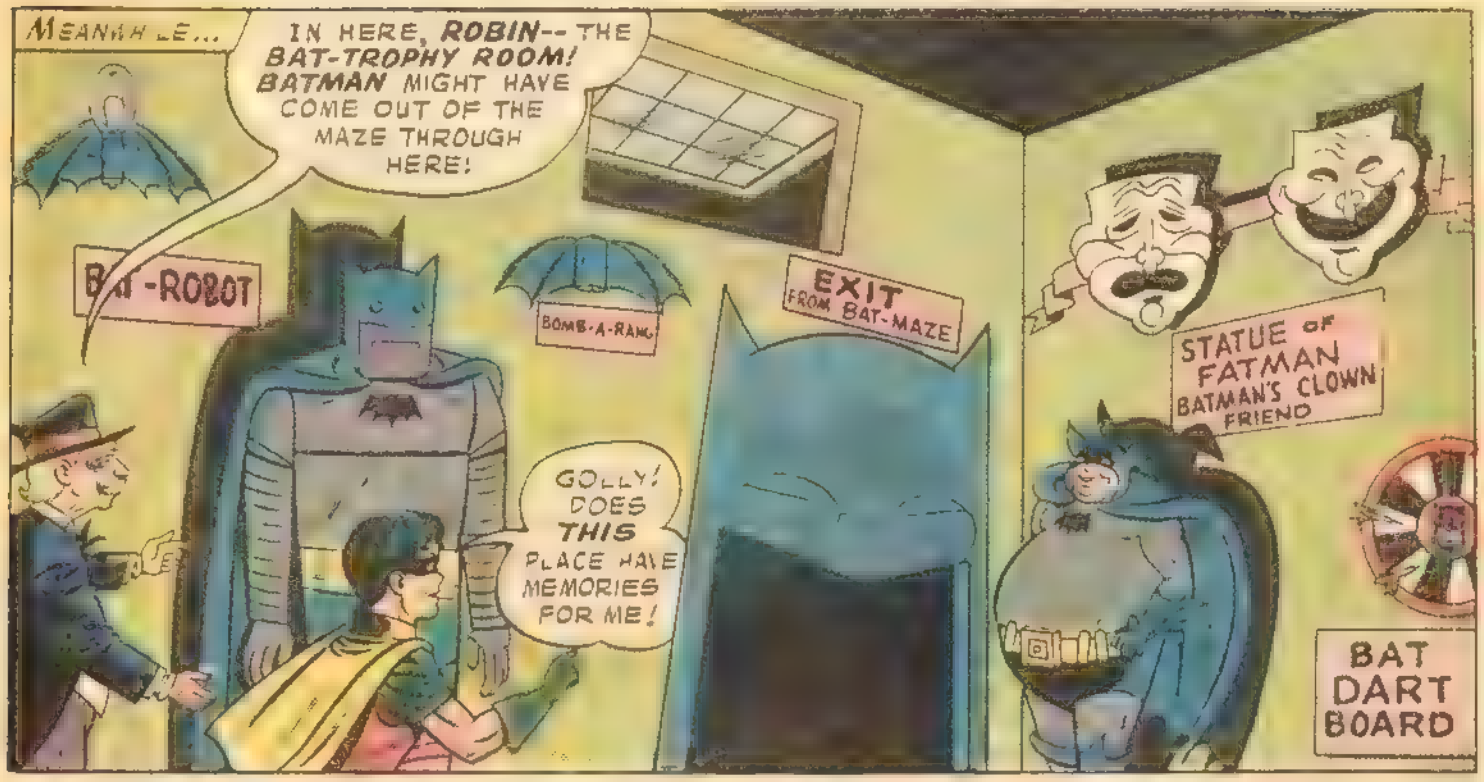
SECONDS LATER, AT THE MANSION OF BRUCE WAYNE...
THERE'S THE BAT-SIGNAL, BRUCE--BUT IT'S NOT COMING FROM HEADQUARTERS!
WHEREVER IT'S COMING FROM--WE'RE NEEDED!

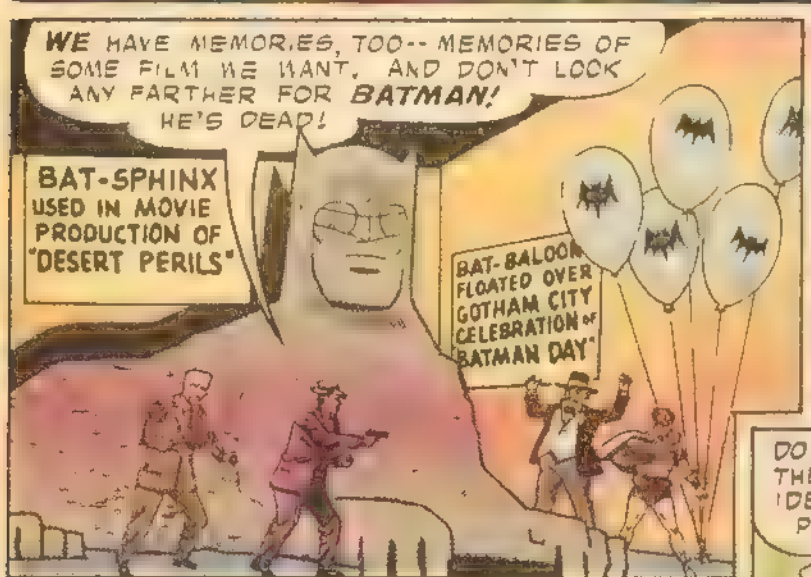

A QUICK CHANGE INTO FAMILIAR COSTUMES, AND...
BATMAN! THE SIGNAL'S COMING FROM ACROSS THE BAY!
IN A COUPLE OF MINUTES, WE'LL KNOW WHAT'S OVER THERE--AND WHY WE'VE BEEN SUMMONED!

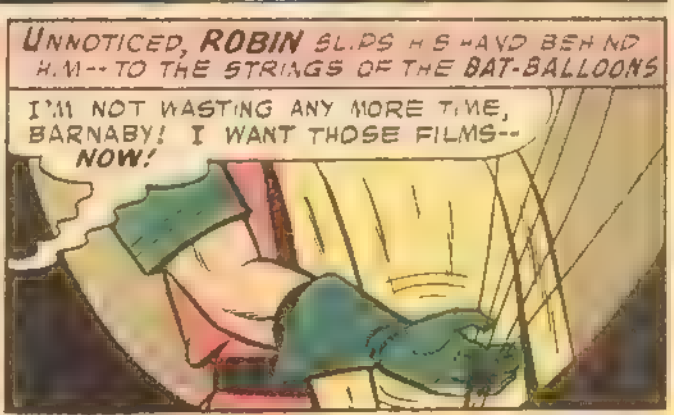

AND WHEN THE BATPLANE LANDS..
STATUES OF US! WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF IT?
IT'S BARNABY'S BATMAN ISLAND! BUT RIGHT NOW, LET'S SEE WHY HE CALLED US HERE!
BATMAN
3

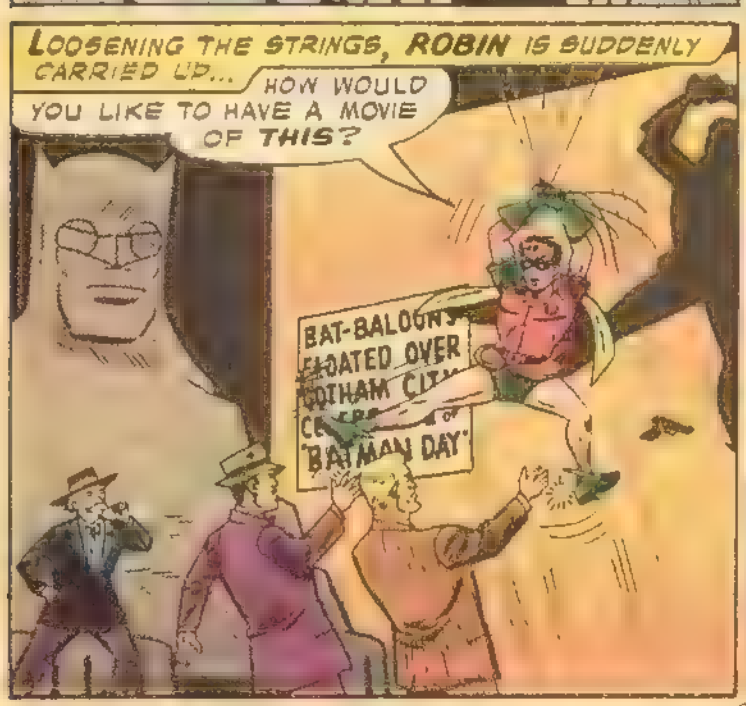
INSIDE, MEANWHILE...
HOLD ON, MISTER! YOU'VE GOT SOME MOVIES WE WANT!
AQUARIUM TANK USED BY "THE SHARK" TO TEST UNDER-WATER GADGETS USED AGAINST BATMAN AND ROBIN
THE BAT-MAZE OF TRAPS
I HIT HIM TOO HARD! HE'S OUT!
LOOK!
WE'D LIKE TO SEE THOSE MOVIES, ALSO! WHO'S SELLING TICKETS?
I'LL FIX BATMAN! AND "THE SHARK" WOULD ENJOY KNOWING THAT HIS OLD TANK HELPED ME!
AQUARIUM TANK USED BY "THE SHARK" TO TEST UNDER-WATER GADGETS USED AGAINST BATMAN AND ROBIN
THE GLASS WALLS ARE SHATTERED, AND THE WATER RUSHES OUT IN A FURY...
COME ON--THIS WAY-- THROUGH THE MAZE! WE NEED TIME TO FIGURE OUT A COUPLE OF ANGLES!
4

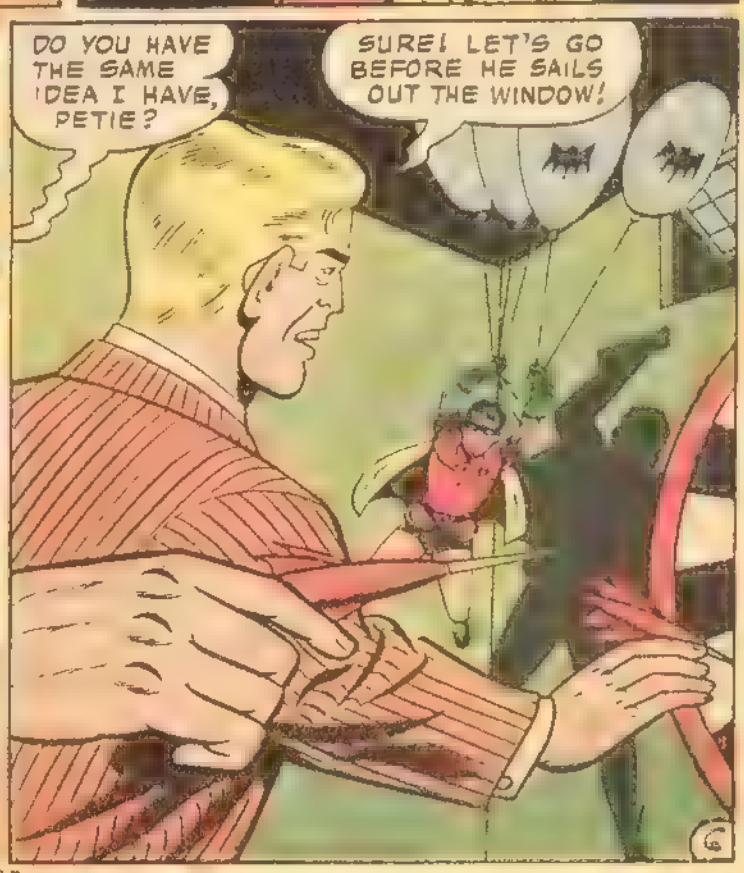
A MOMENT LATER...
I'VE GOT AN IDEA, PETIE! GET UP TO THAT WINDOW ABOVE THE TANK! HURRY!
FALSE FACE EXHIBIT
SPECIMEN TANK IN WHICH BATMAN WAS ALMOST KILLED
AND THEN...
THE WATER HAS DRAINED OUT! ROBIN, TAKE CARE OF BARNABY, WHILE I-- UH-OH! THERE'S ONE OF THEM NOW--UP THERE!
HE SAW ME, BOSS! AND HERE HE COMES--LIKE A HURRICANE!
THERE HE GOES!
THERE IS A RIPPING SOUND--THEN SILENCE...
I REMEMBER WHEN BATMAN FELL INTO THIS TRAP WITH FALSE FACE! HE HELD ONTO THE PLASTIC, GRABBED THE LADDER, AND LET HIMSELF DOWN TO THE BOTTOM AND ACTED DEAD!
HE'S NOT GOING TO PLAY POSSUM WITH ME! WHERE FALSE FACE LOST OUT-- I'M GOING TO WIN!
BANG! BANG!
5

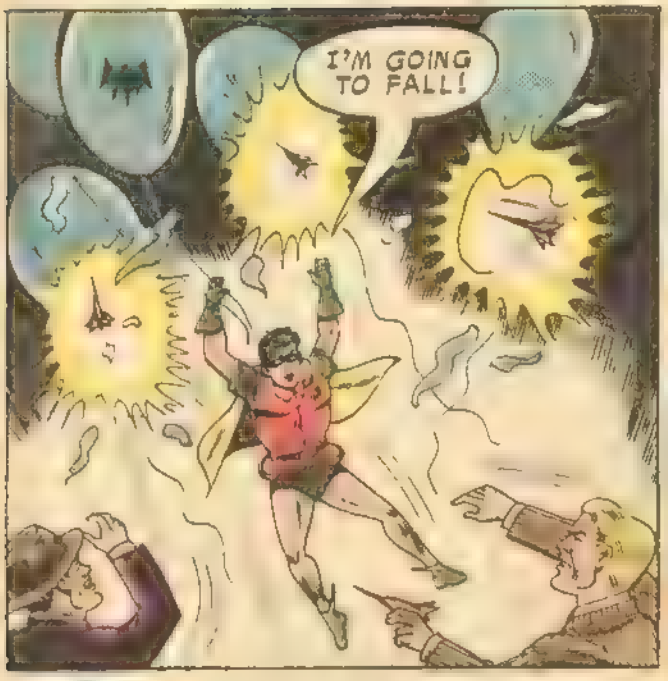

MEANWHILE...
IN HERE, ROBIN-- THE BAT-TROPHY ROOM! BATMAN MIGHT HAVE COME OUT OF THE MAZE THROUGH HERE!
BAT-ROBOT
BOMB-A-RANG
EXIT FROM BAT-MAZE
STATUE OF FATMAN BATMAN'S CLOWN FRIEND
GOLLY! DOES THIS PLACE HAVE MEMORIES FOR ME!
BAT DART BOARD

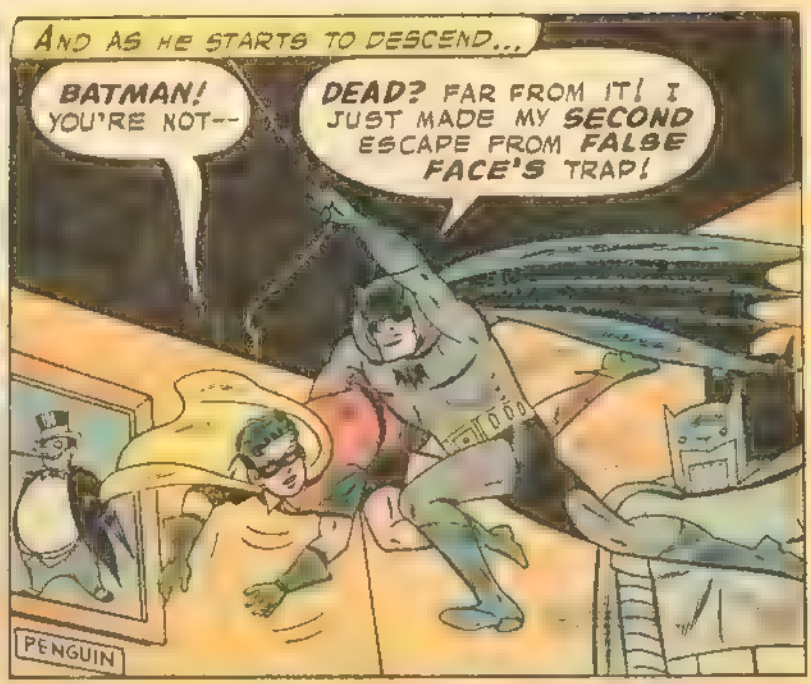

WE HAVE MEMORIES, TOO-- MEMORIES OF SOME FILM WE WANT. AND DON'T LOOK ANY FARTHER FOR BATMAN! HE'S DEAD!
BAT-SPHINX USED IN MOVIE PRODUCTION OF "DESERT PERILS"
BAT-BALOON FLOATED OVER GOTHAM CITY CELEBRATION OF BATMAN DAY"

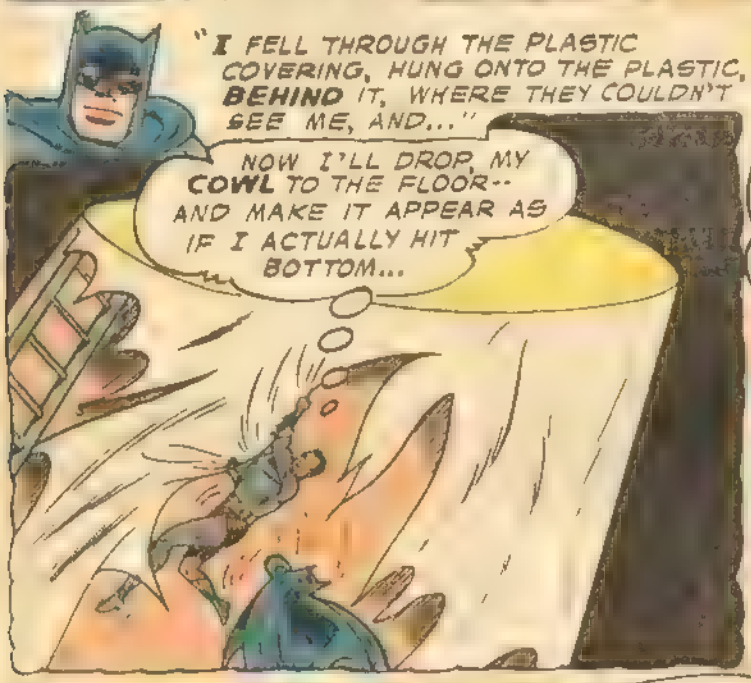

UNNOTICED, ROBIN SLIDS HIS HAND BEHIND H.M-- TO THE STRINGS OF THE BAT-BALLOONS
I'M NOT WASTING ANY MORE TIME, BARNABY! I WANT THOSE FILMS-- NOW!

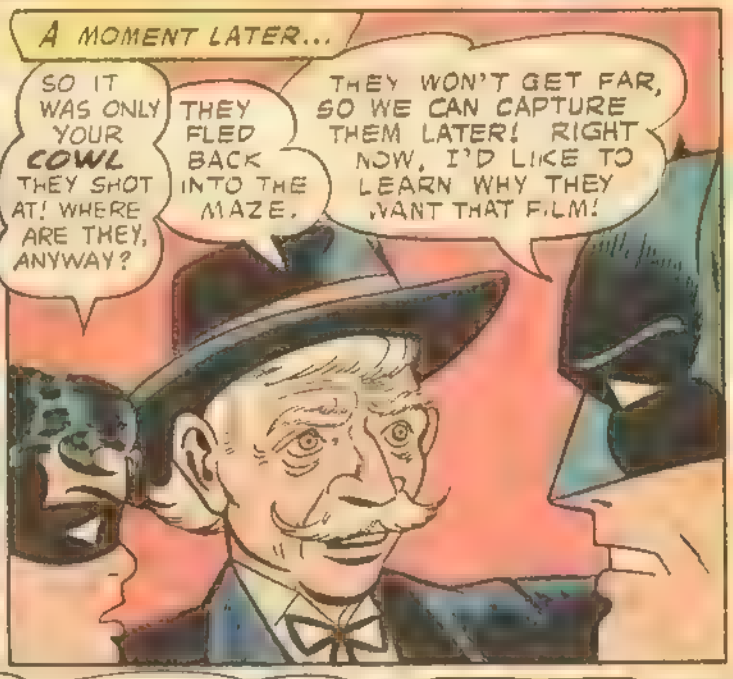

LOOSENING THE STRINGS, ROBIN IS SUDDENLY CARRIED UP...
HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE A MOVIE OF THIS?
BAT-BALOON FLOATED OVER GOTHAM CITY
"BATMAN DAY"

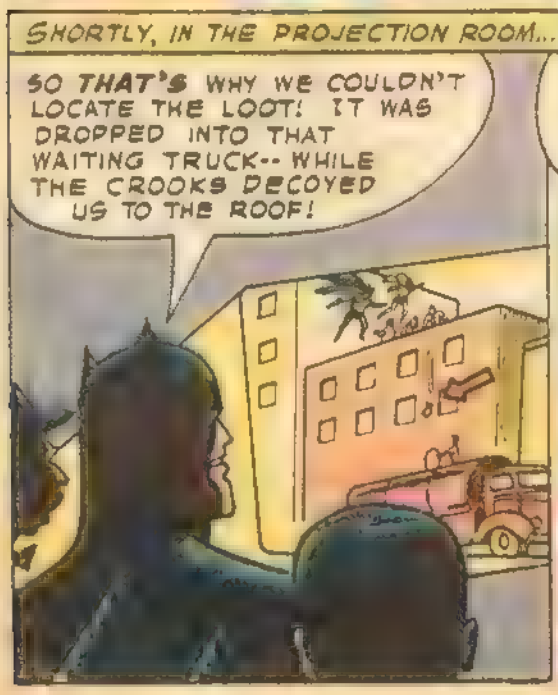

DO YOU HAVE THE SAME IDEA I HAVE, PETIE?
SURE! LET'S GO BEFORE HE SAILS OUT THE WINDOW!

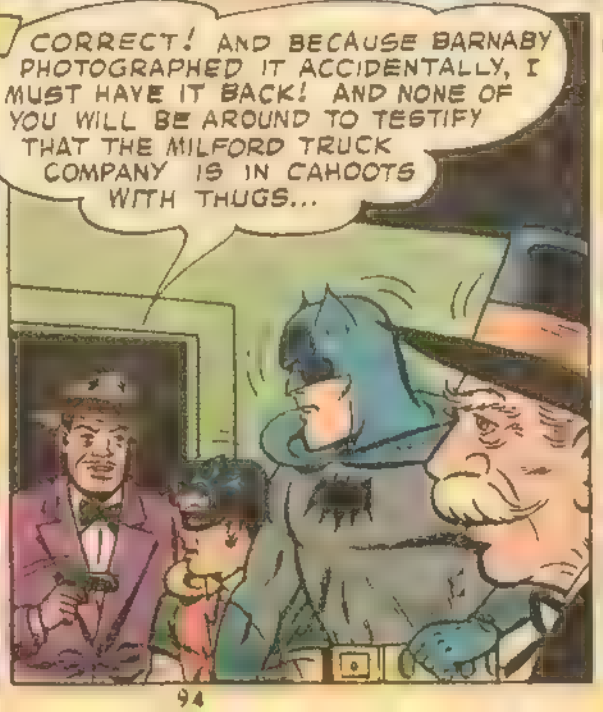

I'M GOING TO FALL!

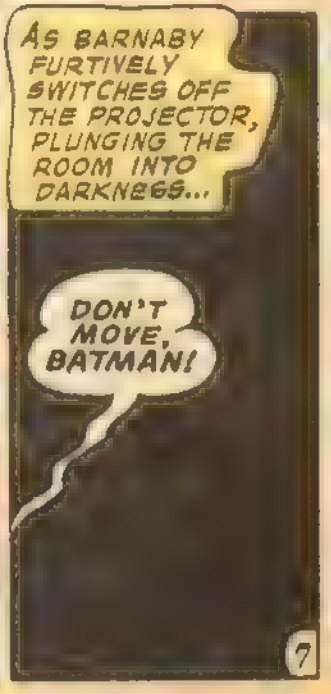

AND AS HE STARTS TO DESCEND...
BATMAN! YOU'RE NOT--
DEAD? FAR FROM IT! I JUST MADE MY SECOND ESCAPE FROM FALSE FACE'S TRAP!
PENGUIN

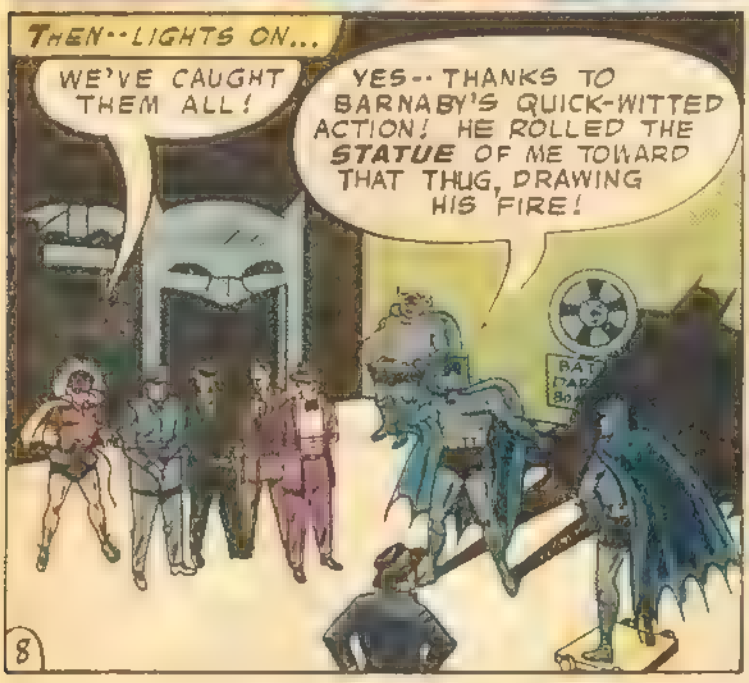

"I FELL THROUGH THE PLASTIC COVERING, HUNG ONTO THE PLASTIC, BEHIND IT, WHERE THEY COULDN'T SEE ME, AND..."
NOW I'LL DROP MY COWL TO THE FLOOR-- AND MAKE IT APPEAR AS IF I ACTUALLY HIT BOTTOM...

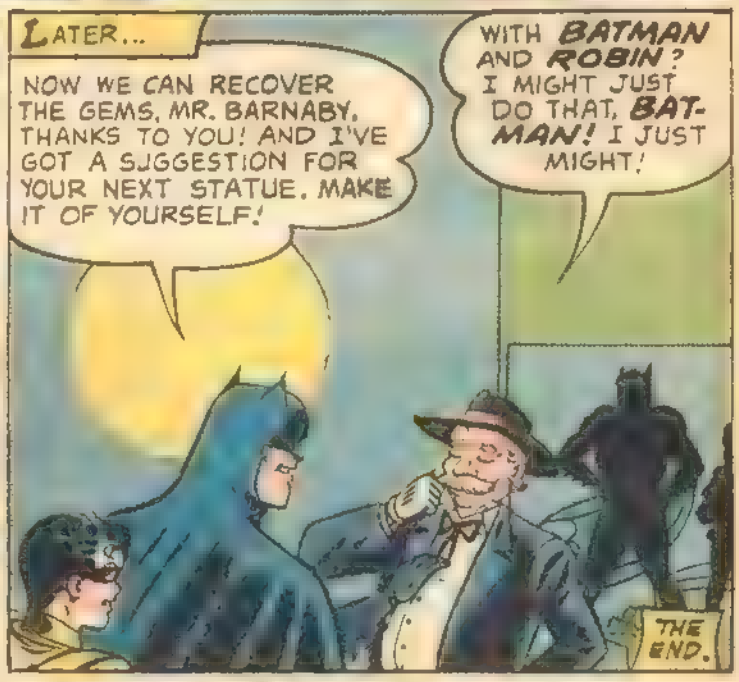

A MOMENT LATER...
SO IT WAS ONLY YOUR COWL THEY SHOT AT! WHERE ARE THEY, ANYWAY?
THEY FLED BACK INTO THE MAZE.
THEY WON'T GET FAR, SO WE CAN CAPTURE THEM LATER! RIGHT NOW, I'D LIKE TO LEARN WHY THEY WANT THAT FILM!


SHORTLY, IN THE PROJECTION ROOM...
SO THAT'S WHY WE COULDN'T LOCATE THE LOOT! IT WAS DROPPED INTO THAT WAITING TRUCK-- WHILE THE CROOKS DECOYED US TO THE ROOF!


CORRECT! AND BECAUSE BARNABY PHOTOGRAPHED IT ACCIDENTALLY, I MUST HAVE IT BACK! AND NONE OF YOU WILL BE AROUND TO TESTIFY THAT THE MILFORD TRUCK COMPANY IS IN CAHOOTS WITH THUGS...


AS BARNABY FURTIVELY SWITCHES OFF THE PROJECTOR, PLUNGING THE ROOM INTO DARKNESS...
DON'T MOVE, BATMAN!
7

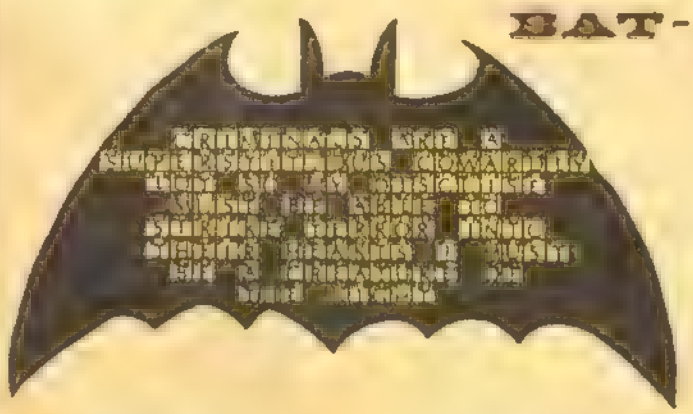

THEN--LIGHTS ON...
WE'VE CAUGHT THEM ALL!
YES--THANKS TO BARNABY'S QUICK-WITTED ACTION! HE ROLLED THE STATUE OF ME TOWARD THAT THUG, DRAWING HIS FIRE!
8


LATER...
NOW WE CAN RECOVER THE GEMS, MR. BARNABY, THANKS TO YOU! AND I'VE GOT A SUGGESTION FOR YOUR NEXT STATUE. MAKE IT OF YOURSELF!
WITH BATMAN AND ROBIN? I MIGHT JUST DO THAT, BATMAN! I JUST MIGHT!
THE END.

HERE'S THE SOLUTION TO THIS ISSUE'S

BAT-PUZZLE

ON PAGE 58



a. STEER
b. GOTHAM
c. OIL
d. BRUCE WAYNE
e. RISE
f. RAS
g. BAIT
h. SUIT & TIE
i. LIES
j. MULE
k. ALFRED
l. TOURIST
m. HOUR
n. DICK GRAYSON
o. TRIBE
p. TIRE
q. SOOT
r. MATCHES
s. THIRST
t. TO
u. SUPERMAN

COMING IN THE AUGUST *BATMAN*, #257: *THE BATMAN'S* FINE-FEATHERED FOE RETURNS IN *"HAIL EMPEROR PENGUIN!"*--A *BRAND-NEW FULL-LENGTH NOVEL!*

EXTRA! TALES OF "COMEDY" AND TRAGEDY featuring THE *BATMAN FAMILY: THE BATMAN--ROBIN--ALFRED--THE JOKER*-- AND A GUY CALLED *ALLY BABBLE!*

ON SALE DURING THE LAST WEEK IN APRIL

MEOW-DO-YOU-DO? ALTHOUGH THE BATMAN CAUSED CAT-ASTROPHE TO MY LATEST PLANS, HE CAN NEVER KEEP THE PRINCESS OF PLUNDER LOCKED UP PURR-MANENTLY! JJST THINK OF ALL THE TIMES HE'S FACED THE CLAWS OF...
The CATWOMAN!
MY REAL NAME IS SELINA KYLE, BUT IN MY FIRST ENCOUNTER WITH THE BATMAN (BATMAN #1; SPRING, 1940) I WAS KNOWN ONLY AS THE CAT!
I FIRST WORE A COSTUME IN BATMAN #3; FALL, 1940. IT DID HIDE MY LOVELY FACE, THOUGH!
I THINK I IMPROVED ON IT A BIT WITH THIS "BLACK CAT" OUTFIT FROM BATMAN #10; APRIL-MAY, 1942.
BY THE MID-1940'S, I'D SWITCHED TO SOMETHING MORE ATTRACTIVE... WHICH I WORE FOR SEVERAL YEARS! THIS SHOT IS FROM BATMAN #84; JUNE, 1954!
BUT TIMES CHANGE... AND SO DID MY COSTUME! THIS ONE FROM BATMAN #197, DEC., 1967... SOMEWHAT RESEMBLED THE ONE JULIE NEWMAR WORE WHEN SHE PORTRAYED ME ON TELEVISION!
FINALLY IN BATMAN #210; MARCH, 1969, I FIRST DONNED THE FETCHING FELINE OUTFIT I NOW WEAR! TELL ME... WHICH DO YOU THINK MAKES ME LOOK MY BEST?

August 31, 1989

Dear Editor:

Ever since you took over for the retired Mr. Schwartz, the quality of *The Batman* has achieved the same level of excellence and excitement that Editor Schwartz obtained back in the '70's.

The "Future Look" of *The Batman*, introduced by the Gardner (remember him?) Fox of the past two decades, Denny O'Neil, is the freshest, most original, most creative thing to hit the Magazine Selector since the inception of *The Batman* (did they have Electronic Newsstands back then?). I don't need to remind you that the November issue #381 marks one year since you gave us the first step of the "Future Look". For brand-new readers, and for those who may have missed some issues, I would like to take this opportunity to recap the monumental events that comprise the four issues of this *Batman* epic:

#373: Two weeks before Dick *(Robin)* Grayson's graduation from Hudson University, Bruce Wayne and Alfred take a test-ride in an experimental Lunar Cruiser. The trip ends in tragedy with all passengers dying in a pressure-leak during Earth re-entry.

#374: To protect their secret identities, so that he may continue to fight crime, Dick arranges the "demise" of *Robin* in New Carthage, and adopts the identity of *The Batman*, fighting crime with the Wayne fortune. At the double funeral, Dick meets Roger Pennyworth, Alfred's nephew, who replaces his uncle as Dick's 'manservant, sharing *The Batman's* secret identity. To further protect his secret identity, Dick sells Wayne Manor and moves to Central City, where the *Flash* lives with his wife, Iris, and their son, Bruce.

#375: After he has constructed Grayson Manor, with the new BatCave, and firmly established himself in the community, *The Batman* appears, ready to fight crime with *The Flash*. In a death-trap created by four of *Flash's* foes, Barry and Iris perish at home, while teen-aged Bruce is at high school.

#376: Prof. West, Iris' foster father, having died years earlier, Bruce has no other living family in Central City. At his parents' grave, he vows to avenge their deaths, in true "*Robin*" style. With his only living relatives being Wally *(Kid Flash)* West and his parents, who are, by now, old and feeble, Bruce supposedly goes off to live with his "uncle" in Metropolis, when, in reality, he goes to live with Dick Grayson, who helps him fulfill his vow to avenge crime as the new *Robin*. A few months later, Bruce Allen returns to Central City, and becomes the legal ward of millionaire Dick Grayson. Finally, after more than fifteen years, *Batman* and *Robin* are working as a team again.

—*SCOTT WEINGARTEN, Beverly Hills, Ca.*

(Perhaps you'll read this someday, Scott, out there in 1989—if you manage to find a used copy of this magazine in an old book store, if you haven't already. But how did you find that certain Post Office in Beverly Hills that contained a secret mailing tube back through time? Our scientists here in 1974 have only just recently discovered it!—MP)

Dear Editor:

Batman is the title of the magazine, *right*? But I care not to discuss *him*. No, I wish to talk about his youthful protegé known as *Robin*. Face it, *Robin* is a hybrid of a Boy Scout and a Puritan. I know there's a Comics Code—I'm not suggesting that he start smoking joints, dropping acid, and talking like a sailor, just *modernize* him.

Robin is a *man*! And a four-cornered one, too, dig? You were on the right track when you lengthened the *Teen Wonder's* hair, but *Robin* was still *square*. Give him some fancy clothes (his mentor can afford it), and let him grow a mustache.

That last suggestion will bring tirades *ad infinitum* from almost all the other readers, but why not try it for a story? He could always shave it off at the end and no damage would be done. If you think that it would link Dick Grayson to *Robin*, I'm afraid you're fighting a losing battle, Mr. J.S. After all, I don't see how he can now fool ANYBODY with just a skimpy eye-mask.

—*CLINT THOMAS, Oak Hill, W. Virginia*

(Easy—he took lessons from Clark Kent*! But, seriously, we'll give some thought to the idea after your fellow-readers respond to it*—ad infinitum*? Well, that's up to them. But what we'd especially like to hear are the readers' answers to the question: should we run more 20-page* Batman *tales with* Robin *[as in the past two issues], or* shorter Batman *solo stories with a shorter, solo* Robin *story?*—MP*)*

(The following letter arrived after our deadline for issue #255:)

Dear Editor:

The latest issue of *The Batman* (#253) was very well executed, the unusual guest-star role of *The Shadow* kept the somewhat dull and unimaginative plot from being unduly abrasive.

The Shadow's mysterious comings and goings, while far from being subtle, fit smoothly into the overall adventure. My guess is that Lamont Cranston would have to be in his sixties, so any suggestion that he return to his strenuous crime-busting habits would be absurd. I think it's just as well for him to continue his "untold" adventures in his own magazine. (How's *that* for a plug?).

—*JAMES T. McCOY, JR., Valley Station, Ky.*

Dear Editor:

Your super-hero comix have brought joy and imagination to adults and children all over the world. They did this for my child-man Jimmy McCoy, who, in the past years, has written and has had so many letters published by your company. Jimmy had Muscular Dystrophy and through your comics he saw himself walk and do all the things he couldn't do. Jimmy passed away on Sunday, October 1, 1973, and I'm writing this letter to simply thank you for making him happy. Please continue to do so for all the other child-men in the world.

His sister,
Kathleen McCoy

(In preparing these pages each issue, an editor often sees the same signatures on the letters of comment again and again. And he often comes to regard his "regular critics" as a kind of small family. Believe us, Ms. McCoy, when we say that to lose someone like Jimmy is to lose a member of that very special family. On behalf of our publisher, Carmine Infantino, our editors and the entire DC staff who have appreciated Jimmy's comments, you have our deepest sympathies and our assurance that we will continue trying to bring that "joy and imagination" to people like Jimmy throughout the world. Because it is through the sadness of a letter like yours that comes the comfort of knowing it's all worthwhile. —Martin Pasko*)*

CHARLES ATLAS, World's No. 1 Body Builder, says:

Don't Be Half A Man!

Let ME SHOW How I Can Make You a Real HE-MAN From Head to Toe — in Just 15 Minutes a Day! Take a good honest look at yourself! Are you proud of your body — or are you satisfied to go through life being just "half the man" you could be? No matter how ashamed you are of your present physical condition — or how old or young you are — the "sleeping" muscles already present in your body can turn you into a real HE-MAN! Believe me, I know — because I was once a skinny, scrawny 97-pound half-alive weakling! People used to laugh at my build and make fun of me. I was ashamed to strip for sports or the beach . . . shy of girls . . . afraid of healthy competition.

WIN THIS VALUABLE TROPHY

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One day, I discovered a secret that changed me from a timid, frightened scarecrow into "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man" — a "magic formula" that can help turn *you*, too, into a marvellous physical specimen . . . a real HE-MAN from head to toe . . . a man who STANDS OUT in any crowd! What's my secret? "DYNAMIC-TENSION" — the natural method! No theory. No gadgets or contraptions. You just do as I did. Simply take the "sleeping" muscles already present inside your own body — build them up — use them every day in walking, bending over, reaching, even sitting! Almost before you know it, you're covered with a brand-new suit of beautiful, rock-hard SOLID MUSCLE!

MY SECRET BUILDS MUSCLES FAST!

Just 15 minutes each day in the privacy of your room is all it takes to make your chest and shoulder muscles swell so big they almost split your coat seams . . . turn your fists into sledge-hammers . . . build mighty legs that never tire! Mail coupon today for my famous book showing how "Dynamic-Tension" can give *you* a Body by Atlas. Charles Atlas, Dept. **81 S** 115 E. 23 St., New York, N. Y. 10010.

5 FREE GIFTS

If you act now, in addition to my complete course, you will also get these five valuable outline courses.

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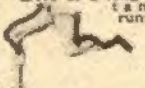
BIG ARM MUSCLES? You'll see and feel your arm muscles BULGE out with super power and energy.

TIRELESS LEGS? I make your legs strong and powerful with the tireless drive of a long distance runner.



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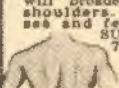

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THE INSULT THAT MADE A MAN OUT OF 'MAC'

HEY! QUIT KICKING THAT SAND IN OUR FACES!
THAT MAN IS THE WORST NUISANCE ON THE BEACH
LISTEN HERE, I'D SMASH YOUR FACE... ONLY YOU'RE SO SKINNY YOU MIGHT DRY UP AND BLOW AWAY
THE BIG BULLY! I'LL GET EVEN SOME DAY
OH DON'T LET IT BOTHER YOU, LITTLE BOY!
DARN IT! I'M SICK AND TIRED OF BEING A SCARECROW! CHARLES ATLAS SAYS HE CAN GIVE ME A REAL BODY. ALL RIGHT! I'LL GAMBLE A STAMP AND GET HIS FREE BOOK!
BOY! IT DIDN'T TAKE ATLAS LONG TO DO THIS FOR ME! WHAT MUSCLES! THAT BULLY WON'T SHOVE ME AROUND AGAIN!
THERE'S THAT BIG STIFF AGAIN, SHOWING OFF IN FRONT OF GRACE AND THE CROWD. WELL, IT'S MY TURN THIS TIME!
WHAM! - NOW IT'S YOUR TURN TO DRY UP AND BLOW AWAY!
OH, MAC! YOU ARE A REAL MAN AFTER ALL!

Join the Jolly Giant and win the prizes you want

Enroll now as a member of the Junior Sales Club of America. We'll send you a Free Prize Catalog, Membership Card, full selling information plus your first order of 12 boxes of elegant All Occasion Greeting Cards. As each order is sold, you may reorder additional cards until you've met your prize requirements. Cards are sent on credit. YOU PAY NOTHING IN ADVANCE.

Each box of 21 fine quality greeting cards costs just $2.00. That's less than 10c a card. Think of all the people you know — relatives, friends, neighbors — who'll want to buy these handsome cards by the box. Many J.S.C.A. members have earned a prize in only a few hours. IF YOU WISH, YOU MAY TAKE AS YOUR PRIZE 70c FOR EACH BOX YOU SELL.

Just fill out and mail the coupon-reply card to receive your first order of greeting cards. You may take up to 30 days to sell them. If after that time you have any boxes unsold, promptly return them prepaid by parcel post, keeping 70c for each box you've sold.

Get the prizes you want the fast, easy J.S.C.A. way. Act now!

All J.S.C.A. members can be winners if they try

MAIL YOUR POSTAGE-PAID REPLY CARD NOW!

Junior Sales Club of America

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FILL IN COUPON-REPLY CARD • CUT & MAIL TODAY • NO STAMP NEEDED

FIRST CLASS
PERMIT NO. 3105
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BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
No Postage Stamp Necessary if Mailed in the United States

Postage will be paid by

Junior Sales Club of America

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Fold Over Here ↑ Don't Cut! Do Seal (Paste, Staple or Scotch Tape) ↑ No Stamp Needed!

Please send me my first order of 12 All Occasion Greeting Card Boxes to sell.

Name _____

Address _____ (print clearly) Apt. No. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parent's Signature _____

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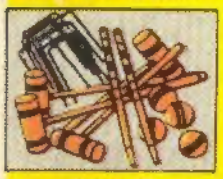
TRANSISTOR RADIO



CROQUET SET

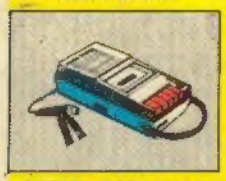
JR. GUITARS

WRIST WATCHES

VOLLEYBALL SET

TENNIS RACKET

SWIM SET



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They are the only thing I ever tried to sell that people wanted to buy.
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I never have to be afraid to ask anybody to buy American Seeds.
Sue Plenkuch
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You don't have to be an expert to sell American Seeds. Anything they want to know is on the back of the packet.
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MAKE MONEY
GET PRIZES
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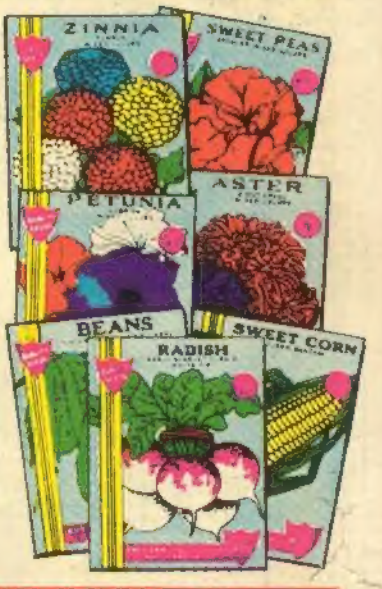
Take your choice of 100 wonderful prizes. You can earn as many as you want. Most prizes shown here and many more in our Big Prize Book are given WITHOUT COST for selling just one 50-pack order of American Vegetable and Flower Seeds at 30¢ a pack. Some of the larger prizes require more sales or extra money as explained in the Big Prize Book.



Send NO MONEY, We Trust You

Everybody wants American Seeds. They're fresh and ready to grow. You'll sell them quickly to family, friends and neighbors. Many boys and girls sell their packs in one day. You can, too — and get your prize at once. Or, if you want money instead of a prize, keep $5.00 for every 50-pack order you sell.

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To order your seeds, fill out one of *these* coupons and mail in an envelope to:

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Lancaster, Pa. 17604
OUR 56th YEAR

MAIL ONE COUPON TODAY
Give the Other to a Friend

AMERICAN SEED CO., Dept. 435 Lancaster, Pa. 17604

Please send me your Big Prize Book and one order of 50 packs of American Seeds. I'll sell them at 30¢ a pack, send you the money and choose my prize. Send seeds checked.

☐ All Flower Seeds ☐ Mixed Vegetable and Flower Seeds

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Address_____

Town_____ State_____ Zip Code_____

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$6,400.00
AWARDED IN OUR PROMPTNESS CONTEST
in addition to the prizes and money you earn selling seeds.

Complete information is sent with your Big Prize Book and seeds.

SAVE FOR COLLEGE or SPEND IT NOW!